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1984

ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT

Report to the Supreme Court of Iowa

by

The Court Administrator of the Judicial Department

STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR

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DES MOINES, IOWA 50319

April 23, 1985

TO THE HONORABLE CHIEF JUSTICE AND JUSTICES
OF THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA:

Pursuant to the provisions of section 602.1209, subsection 6, 1985 Iowa Code, I submit herewith the 1984 report relating to the activity of the judicial department.

I wish to express my appreciation to the various clerks of the Iowa District Court, district court administrators and judicial officers for their cooperation in reporting judicial statistics to this office.

Respectfully,

William J. O'Brien
Court Administrator

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STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS AND TRENDS

Appellate Courts

1. In 1984, there were 1,884 filings (1,297 civil, 587 criminal) and 1,857 dispositions (1,280 civil, 577 criminal); filings increased 5.8 percent, while dispositions decreased 2.4 percent from 1983.

2. Since 1974, the number of filings in the appellate courts soared 97.1 percent (956 to 1,884) or an average of 9.7 percent per year; the number of filings per appellate judge climbed 18.9 percent (106 to 126). [Table 11]

3. There were 851 formal dispositions (618 civil, 233 criminal) in the appellate courts in 1984 -- a drop of 15.2 percent (1,003 to 851) from 1983. By formal opinion, the supreme court disposed of 323 cases (223 civil, 100 criminal); the court of appeals handled 528 cases (395 civil, 133 criminal). The number of civil cases disposed of by formal opinion in the appellate courts dropped 12.2 percent (705 to 618) from 1983 to 1984; the number of criminal cases fell 21.8 percent (298 to 233). There were 1,007 appellate cases (662 civil, 345 criminal) terminated by order or other mode prior to submission to the court as compared to 900 dispositions of this kind in 1983. [Tables 3 and 9]

4. In 1984, cases involving domestic relations (dissolutions and child custody) comprised 29.0 percent (179 of 618) of the formal appellate decisions in civil cases -- the largest single category of dispositions. The 88 contract law cases comprised the second most numerous type of civil case followed by torts and property cases. [Tables 3 and 9]

5. The average appellate case terminated by formal opinion was decided slightly over five months after it was ready for submission; the average elapse time from the filing of a notice of appeal to the time a case was ready for submission was about seven and one-half months. Regular civil cases submitted to the supreme court in January 1985, were made ready in or before July 1984 -- a delay of six months or two months longer than a year ago.

6. During 1984, the number of pending cases in the appellate courts rose 4.7 percent (1,191 to 1,247). The number of cases "ready" for disposition soared 37.0 percent (308 to 422). [A "ready" case in this context is defined as any pending case in which all

necessary papers have been filed; it includes cases which have been submitted to the court but not decided.] [Tables 4 and 8]

7. By formal opinion, the appellate courts affirmed the decision of the trial court 63.8 percent of the time; district court rulings had a 21.7 percent chance of being reversed; in 14.5 percent of the cases the appellate courts rendered a mixed decision partially affirming and reversing the trial court. There were 220 applications to the supreme court for further review of a court of appeals decision; the court granted further review in 44 cases while denying application for further review in 197 other instances. The supreme court vacated the judgment of the court of appeals in 21 cases, and affirmed 12 decisions in 1984.

Trial Court

1. In the 28-year period since 1956, the first year trial court statistics were collected and analyzed at the state level, the number of civil filings escalated 115.1 percent (22,922 to 49,294) while the number of criminal filings skyrocketed 553.6 percent (6,178 to 40,379); the number of civil/criminal filings per district judge mushroomed 117.8 percent (416 to 906). [Appendix F] Iowa's population grew 7.0 percent (2,722,375 to 2,913,808) during this period.

2. Since 1956, the number of civil/criminal dispositions per district court judge jumped 78.7 percent (394 to 704). [Appendix H]

3. Since 1956, the number of juvenile petitions soared 279.5 percent (1,607 to 6,099); however, since the 1978 revision of the juvenile justice code, the number of petitions filed in juvenile matters has plummeted 1.3 percent (6,179 to 6,099). The number of probate cases opened rose 49.9 percent (16,137 to 24,190) since 1956. [Appendix F]

4. Since the 1977 legislative freeze on district judgeships (modified in 1981 and 1983 to permit the appointment of seven additional district judges), civil filings increased 13.8 percent (43,324 to 49,294); criminal filings climbed 40.2 percent (28,795 to 40,379). Overall, civil/criminal filings rose 24.3 percent (72,119 to 89,673) in the four-year period. The February 1985 application of the district judgeship formula (based on 1982, 1983 and 1984 filing statistics) entitles Iowa to 124 judgeships -- an increase of 25 over the 99 district court judges currently serving in the trial court. [Appendix F]

5. Since the first calendar year after unification of the district court (1974), the number of simple misdemeanors/scheduled violations filings increased 35.8 percent (484,651 to 658,093) while the number of small claims petitions fluctuated from 68,021 to 82,208 and then down to 71,666 in 1984. The 1984 figures show a 4.6 percent drop in the number of simple misdemeanor filings, a 1.9 percent rise in the number of scheduled violations and a 6.5 percent increase in the number of small claims filed in the district court from the previous year. [Appendix G]

6. In 1984, only 639 of the 232,070 simple misdemeanors (0.3 percent) and 732 of the 26,152 small claims (2.8

percent) terminated by judicial officers were appealed to the district court. [Tables 4 and 5]

In 1984, dissolutions and modifications (16,595), uniform support (7,029), and domestic abuse (132) filings accounted for 23,756 cases or 48.2 percent of all civil filings (49,294). Indictable misdemeanor cases involving first and second offense drunk driving (OWI) comprised 16,379 of the 40,379 criminal filings or 40.6 percent of the total. There were 7,658 felony filings in 1984 -- down 502 cases or 6.2 percent from the 8,160 felony filings in 1983. [Tables 4 and 5]

I. APPELLATE COURTS

THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA

The Supreme Court of Iowa is comprised of nine justices. The chief justice is selected by a vote of the court and serves for the duration of his or her eight-year term of office. As of December 31, 1983, ninety-seven persons have served on the supreme court since Iowa became a territory on July 12, 1838. Although the high court was comprised of only three justices during the first 25 years, the general assembly increased the court's membership to four in 1864, to five in 1876, to six in 1894, to seven in 1913, to eight in 1927, and nine in 1929, as a result of rising caseload.

At the end of 1983, the justices of the supreme court listed in order of seniority were: Harvey Uhlenhopp (Hampton), W. Ward Reynoldson, Chief Justice (Osceola), K. David Harris (Jefferson), Mark McCormick (Des Moines), Arthur A. McGiverin (Ottumwa), Jerry L. Larson (Harlan), Louis W. Schultz (Iowa City), James H. Carter (Cedar Rapids) and Charles R. Wolle (Sioux City).

The method of selecting justices to the Supreme Court of Iowa has changed several times since 1838. While the three territorial justices were appointed by the President of the United States, when Iowa became a state on December 28, 1846, the constitution provided for the selection of supreme court justices by a joint vote of both houses of the general assembly. Iowa's second constitution, adopted in 1857, reflected the mood of Jacksonian democracy and called for the popular election of judges. Finally, in 1962, Iowa voters ratified a constitutional amendment which removed judges from partisan elections and established a 15-member State Judicial Nominating Commission comprised of seven laypersons appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate and seven attorneys elected by members of the Iowa bar. The supreme court justice with the longest service, other than the chief justice, chairs the commission. Whenever a vacancy occurs on the Supreme Court of Iowa, the commission nominates three individuals from whom the governor selects one. One year following initial appointment, and every eight years thereafter, supreme court justices stand for retention at the general election. Trial and appellate judges appointed after July 1, 1965, must retire by age 72; those appointed earlier may serve until their 75th birthday.

Procedures were established in 1975 for the discipline and removal of judges standing for retention election. The Commission on Judicial Qualifications may apply to the supreme court to retire, discipline or remove any justice, judge or

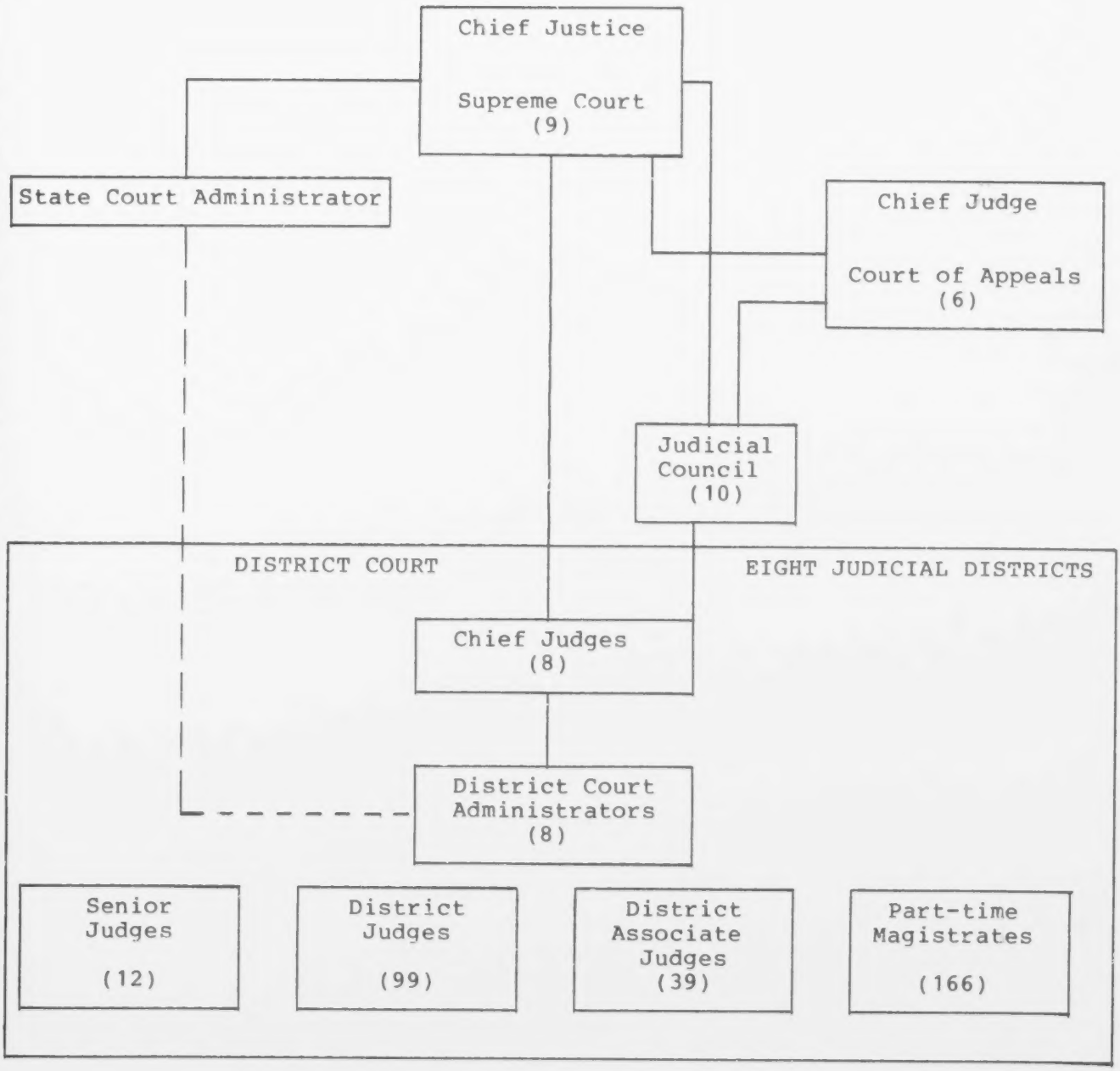
magistrate. The commission is comprised of a district court judge and two practicing attorneys appointed by the chief justice of the Supreme Court and four non-attorney electors appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate.

The Supreme Court stands at the apex of the Iowa judicial system. The court has general appellate jurisdiction in both civil and criminal cases. The court also has original jurisdiction in such cases as reapportionment, bar discipline and the issuance of temporary injunctions. The supreme court has jurisdiction over all appeals from final judgments and from interlocutory orders. It also has the authority to grant writs of certiorari in cases where a district court is alleged to have exceeded its jurisdiction or otherwise acted illegally. A majority of cases handled by the supreme court are appeals from adverse final judgments in the trial court and the Iowa District Court. Except where the action involves an interest in real estate, no appeal shall be taken in any case where the amount in controversy, as shown by the pleadings, is less than $3,000 unless the trial judge certifies that the cause is one in which appeal should be allowed. In small claims actions, where the amount in controversy is $1,000 or less, the supreme court may exercise discretionary review. In criminal cases where the state is the appellant or applicant, the supreme court may exercise discretionary review in the following cases: 1) an order dismissing an arrest or search warrant, 2) an order suppressing or admitting evidence, 3) an order granting or denying a change of venue, and 4) a final judgment or order raising a question of law important to the judiciary and the profession. In cases where the defendant is the appellant or applicant, the supreme court may exercise discretionary review in the following cases; 1) an order suppressing or admitting evidence, 2) an order granting or denying a change of venue, 3) an order denying probation, 4) simple misdemeanor or ordinance violation convictions, and 5) an order raising a question of law important to the judiciary and the profession. All other final judgments may be appealed to the supreme court as a matter of right. [See diagram of the Iowa judicial system on the next page.]

The 1976 Session of the 66th General Assembly established a five-member Court of Appeals. [The Court of Appeals was increased to six members in 1983.] All cases continue to be appealed directly to the supreme court which transfers cases to the intermediate court. Supreme court justices in rotating three-member panels determine which cases to retain and which matters to route to the court of appeals. Pursuant to Rule 401, Rules of Appellate Procedure, the supreme court ordinarily shall hear (not transfer) cases involving: 1) substantial constitutional questions as to the validity of a statute, ordinance or court or administrative rule; 2) substantial issues in which there is or is claimed to be a

CHART 1

IOWA JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT
(April 1, 1985)



conflict with a published decision of the court of appeals or supreme court; 3) substantial issues of first impression; 4) fundamental and urgent issues of broad public importance requiring prompt or ultimate determination; 5) cases in which life imprisonment has been imposed; 6) lawyer discipline; and 7) substantial questions of enunciating or changing legal principles. The rule also suggests summary disposition of certain cases by the supreme court and transfer to the court of appeals of cases involving the application of existing legal principles.

In addition to deciding cases, the supreme court is authorized to supervise the administration of justice and promulgate rules of procedure for the district court, determine the rules for admission and discipline of the bar, regulate a client security fund and program of mandatory continuing education for lawyers and judges, and adopt rules regulating appellate practice and procedure. In exercising its administrative and supervisory control over the trial court, the Supreme Court of Iowa appoints a chief judge in each of the eight judicial districts. The chief judges are responsible for overseeing all judges and magistrates within their jurisdictions. Together with the chief justice of the supreme court and the chief judge of the court of appeals, the chief judges of the district court comprise a Judicial Council. The council is authorized to consider all court administrative rules, directives, and regulations necessary to provide for an efficient, orderly, and effective administration of justice in Iowa.

Assisting the supreme court in its administrative, supervisory, and decision-making roles are the state court administrator, clerk of the supreme court, legal assistants, and various boards and commissions. The court administrator, clerk of court and legal assistants serve at the pleasure of the court. The court administrator and his staff have many statutory and administrative responsibilities including: managing the judicial department, screening cases for oral argument and case routing, writing case statements, gathering statistical data on the judicial business at all levels, examining the state of the dockets in the district court and recommending the assignment of judges to courts in need of assistance, apportioning judicial magistrates among the counties, computing the district court judgeship formula, conducting judicial education programs, recommending improvements in the organization and operation of the judicial system, administering the judicial retirement system, handling payroll and travel expenses for the judicial department, planning and budgeting for the judicial department, providing administrative assistance to various court-appointed committees and attending to such matters as the supreme court may direct. The court administrator serves as the executive

secretary for the Judicial Qualifications Commission; the court administrator is also a member of the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Agency and the State Library Commission.

The clerk of the supreme court also serves as the clerk of the court of appeals. The clerk dockets and monitors all cases appealed to the court, collects court fees, files legal briefs, appendices, and records, files and records every opinion and order of the appellate courts. The clerk is responsible for the sale of court opinions, the administration of the biannual Iowa bar examination and the election of attorney-members to the state and judicial election district nominating commissions. The clerk of the supreme court also collects and accounts for all fees associated with the state bar examination and the shorthand reporter examination and certification.

In its role as supervisor of the Iowa bar, the supreme court appoints the members of the Board of Law Examiners, and confirms as commissioners of the court the members of the Grievance Commission and the Committee on Professional Ethics and Conduct. With the assistance of the Iowa State Bar Association, in 1973, the court established the Client Security and Attorney Disciplinary System designed to prevent defalcations by members of the Iowa bar and provide for the payment of losses caused to the public by dishonest conduct of Iowa attorneys. The court appointed a seven-member commission to administer the fund resulting from annual assessment imposed on attorneys. The supreme court also has provided that all Iowa lawyers and judges must complete a minimum of 15 hours of continuing legal education each year. In 1975, a 12-member Commission on Continuing Legal Education was appointed to exercise general supervisory authority over the administration of the rule.

The supreme court is responsible for promulgating rules of evidence, appellate, civil, criminal, juvenile and probate procedure. The court also is authorized to prescribe rules of evidence, pleading, practice, and procedure, and the forms of process, writs, and notices for all proceedings concerning hospitalization of mentally ill persons and chemical substance abuse. In exercising its rule-making authority, the supreme court is assisted by several committees including: 1) the Supreme Court Committee on Rules of Civil Procedure; 2) the Advisory Committee on Rules of Criminal Procedure, 3) the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Iowa Rules of Evidence, 4) the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Rules of Juvenile Procedure, and 5) the Probate Rules Committee. In developing rules for the hospitalization of the mentally ill, the supreme court has been assisted by the Iowa State Bar Association's Committee on Law and Behavioral Sciences.

Work Load

During 1984, the Supreme Court of Iowa disposed of 323 cases by written opinion -- 209 civil, 100 criminal and 14 disciplinary [Table 1]. As illustrated in the chart below, the number of formal opinions (signed and unsigned) decreased 29.0 percent (455 to 323) from 1983 to 1984. The dramatic drop in the number of per curiam opinions in 1984 was primarily the result of the discontinuation of the "fast-track" decision process whereby less complex cases were submitted without oral argument to rotating three-justice supreme court panels. Since February 1984, the supreme court has transferred cases eligible for "fast-track" processing to the court of appeals.

	Signed Court Opinions	Unsigned Per Curiam Opinions	Total
1984	270	53	323
1983	281	174	455
1982	289	178	467
1981	278	105	383
1980	250	25	275
1979	265	25	290
1978	312	45	357
1977	285	89	374

As illustrated in Table 2, 87.0 percent of the cases (281 of 323) decided by formal opinion were appealed to the supreme court as a matter of right. There were 220 appeals from final judgments in the district court, 16 appeals from interlocutory rulings, 16 postconviction appeals, 14 attorney disciplinary actions and 4 cases involving certified questions of law from the U.S. District Court. The Supreme Court of Iowa exercised discretionary review in only 42 cases -- 33 cases appealed from the court of appeals and 9 original certiorari cases.

Table 3 shows the most numerous types of civil cases disposed of by written opinion concerned torts (39), administrative law (31), contracts (30) and domestic relations (20). Of the 100 criminal cases, 16 involved guilty pleas and/or sentencing issues, exclusively.

In addition to writing 323 opinions during 1984, the nine supreme court justices registered 32 dissents and 9 special concurrences. Their opinions totaled 3,405 pages or 378 pages per judge on double-spaced, letter-sized paper. The average supreme court opinion was approximately 10.5 pages in length. Over 90 percent of the rulings (293 of 323) were approved by a unanimous vote of the justices. The 1984 figures show that while the number of formal supreme court

opinions fell 29.0 percent (455 to 323), the average length of court rulings rose 59.1 percent (6.6 to 10.5 pages); one opinion reached 49 pages.

Cases filed before the supreme court rose from 1,781 (1983) to 1,884 (1984) -- an increase of 5.8 percent. As noted in Table 11, the number of filings in the supreme court has mushroomed 97.1 percent (956 to 1,884) during the last decade. Since 1974, civil filings have soared 118.4 percent (594 to 1,297) while criminal cases have climbed 62.1 percent (362 to 587).

Table 4 indicates the number of civil and criminal cases "In Work," "Ready," "Assigned" and "Out-to-Judges" which were pending as of January 1, 1983, 1984 and 1985. From December 31, 1983, to the end of 1984, the number of cases "In Work" fell 6.6 percent (883 to 825) while the number of cases "Ready" for disposition increased 46.6 percent (161 to 236). The total number of pending cases rose by 19 cases (1,107 to 1,126) or 1.7 percent.

When the pending cases in both appellate courts are examined, figures show an overall increase of 5.1 percent (1,107 to 1,247) in the number of pending cases from December 31, 1983, to the end of 1984. Including cases assigned and submitted but not decided, the number of cases ready for disposition (i.e., all necessary papers filed) jumped 37.0 percent (308 to 422) during 1984.

As noted in Table 5, the average elapse time from "Ready" for submission to supreme court decision was 5.4 months in 1984 or about the same processing time as in 1983. The elapse time for regular civil cases was 6.2 months - down a half month from 1983.

An examination of the direction of the supreme court decisions during 1984, indicates that 60 percent of the district court rulings were affirmed by the court, 27 percent were reversed, and 13 percent were mixed. (A "mixed" supreme court decision is defined as a ruling which both "affirms" and "modifies" or "reverses" parts of a district court ruling.) Forty-one cases involving such matters as attorney disciplinary actions, appeals from the court of appeals, certification of questions of law and original jurisdiction matters were not classified or included in the disposition direction computation.

	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
Affirmed	64	63	57	53	67	64	62	60
Reversed	30	27	33	33	23	23	25	27
Mixed	6	10	10	14	10	13	13	13

Over fifty-seven percent of the cases (185/323) disposed of by written opinion were appealed from the trial courts of ten urban counties. Nearly one out of five cases arose in Polk County.

Counties	Number of Cases	Percentage of Total Cases Disposed
Polk	61	18.9
Scott	23	7.1
Linn	22	6.8
Black Hawk	20	6.2
Pottawattamie	14	4.3
Woodbury	14	4.3
Story	9	2.8
Johnson	8	2.5
Lee	7	2.2
Webster	7	2.2
TOTAL	185	57.3

In addition to the 323 supreme court cases disposed of by formal opinion after submission to the court, 1,571 cases (1,072 civil and 499 criminal) were disposed of by court order, consolidation, dismissal by the clerk for failure to cure a default or by voluntary action by the parties involved. Table 6 shows 130 cases were dismissed by order of the supreme court; 251 orders were issued denying petitions for various types of review; 96 cases were dismissed by the clerk for failure to cure a default after notice; 366 cases were voluntarily withdrawn by the parties; 58 cases were consolidated; 569 cases were transferred by order of the supreme court to the court of appeals and 101 were disposed of by other means. In total, 1,894 filings were disposed of by the supreme court in 1984. Excluding cases transferred to the court of appeals, the supreme court disposed of 1,325 appeals in 1984.

A significant amount of judge-time also was spent ruling on preliminary motions and applications, conducting hearings, and writing 4,974 orders which did not result in the disposal of a case. Excluding orders transferring cases to the court of appeals, the number of dispository and non-dispository orders issued by the supreme court during the last eight years is illustrated on the next page.

	Dispository Orders	Nondispository Orders
1984	1,002	4,974
1983	893	5,071
1982	923	4,939
1981	822	5,006
1980	838	4,220
1979	743	3,024
1978	718	3,445
1977	701	2,432

In recent years, several major structural and procedural changes have contributed to the supreme court's ability to handle an increasing number of appeals. One important innovation has been the reinstitution of a practice prevalent from 1929-1943; namely, hearing and deciding cases in divisions of five members. Instead of spending four days a month in court hearing oral arguments, each justice now spends two days hearing oral arguments. (During the monthly court week, Wednesdays generally are reserved for conference and administrative matters.) Except in the most complex and controversial cases in which two or more justices request disposition en banc (by the full nine-member court), cases before the supreme court are decided by division. The drafts of all proposed opinions are circulated to the entire court. At any time prior to final approval of a proposed opinion, any two justices may request that a specific case be decided en banc. The research staff initially screens all cases and recommends to a three-justice screening panel whether a case should be submitted en banc or to a division; staff attorneys also recommend the amount of oral argument time, if any, which should be allotted to each case, and whether the case should be retained by the supreme court or transferred to the court of appeals.

As noted in Table 7, 274 of the 323 supreme court decisions were decided by a panel of five justices. All disciplinary cases were considered en banc; 10.6 percent of the civil and 13.0 percent of the criminal cases were voted on formally by the full membership of the court. Overall, 15.2 percent of the cases disposed of in 1984 were decided by all nine justices sitting en banc.

In addition to using judicial panels to hear and decide cases, the court also has conserved time by reducing the number of cases permitted oral argument and limiting the amount of time each party can use in presenting its case. While before 1973 the court allowed 75 minutes to argue a case, today most oral arguments are limited to approximately 35 minutes. In 1984, 76 of the 310 cases (24.5 percent) were

submitted without oral argument before the supreme court. As illustrated below, the number and percent of appeals submitted to the supreme court without oral argument dropped substantially in 1984 due to the transfer of many less complex "fast-track" cases to the court of appeals.

Submissions to the Supreme Court

	Oral	Non-Oral	Total	Percent Non-Oral
1984	234	76	310	24.5
1983	257	193	450	43.5
1982	264	217	481	45.1
1981	254	136	390	34.9
1980	236	46	282	16.3
1979	209	60	269	22.3
1978	258	96	354	27.1
1977	264	105	369	28.5
1976	242	149	391	38.1

Other factors playing crucial roles in alleviating some of the court's research and administrative burdens include: the research of legal assistants, case statements, court orders and screening recommendations drafted by the research staff, and the administrative tasks performed by the court administrator and staff, and the clerk's office.

THE IOWA COURT OF APPEALS

In 1976, the 66th General Assembly established a new five-member appellate court designated as the Iowa Court of Appeals; in 1983 a sixth member was added. The new court began hearing oral arguments and deciding cases in January 1977. The members of the Iowa Court of Appeals listed in order of seniority are: Allen L. Donielson (West Des Moines), Bruce M. Snell, Jr. (Ida Grove), Leo Oxberger, Chief Judge (St. Charles), Dick R. Schlegel (Ottumwa), Maynard J. V. Hayden (Indianola) and Rosemary Shaw Sackett (Spencer).

The court of appeals is authorized to review all civil and criminal actions, postconviction remedy proceedings, small claims actions, writs, orders and other processes transferred to it by the supreme court. The Iowa Court of Appeals hears only the cases transferred to it by the supreme court. All cases continue to be appealed directly to the supreme court.

Work Load

As indicated in Table 8, during 1984, the six-member court of appeals disposed of 532 cases -- 397 civil and 135 criminal -- the second largest number of dispositions in its eight-year history. There were 73 per curiam opinions, 455 signed opinions, and four cases dismissed by order. Since the court of appeals was established in late 1976 and began deciding cases in 1977, it has disposed of 3,514 cases (2,546 civil and 968 criminal). There were 80 civil and 41 criminal cases pending before the court of appeals at the end of 1984.

The number and type of cases disposed of by formal written opinion are illustrated in Table 9. As noted in this table, the court of appeals disposed of 153 domestic relations cases (51 involving child custody), 56 administrative law cases, 58 contract cases, 41 tort cases and 37 property matters. Twenty-seven of the 133 criminal cases involved guilty pleas and/or sentencing only.

Of the 507 cases classified by disposition, 334 or 65.9 percent were affirmed, 95 or 18.7 percent were reversed, and 78 or 15.4 percent were a combination of the two, modified or remanded only. In 1984, approximately 13.8 percent of the cases (73/528) were decided by per curiam opinion; in 1981 nearly three-fourths of the cases (368/501) were terminated by an unsigned per curiam opinion.

During 1984, the supreme court considered 241 applications for further review and granted review in 44 cases. Of the 33 court of appeals rulings reviewed by the supreme court in 1984, 21 were vacated and 12 were affirmed.

The average delay from the time a case was "ready" for submission to "decision" by the court of appeals was 4.8 months--nearly one month shorter than the elapse time recorded in 1983 and over seven months less than appellate delay in 1977, the court's first year of operation. [Table 10] In 1984, the average elapse time for non-priority civil cases was 5.1 months; the delay was 16.1 months in 1977.

Of the 525 cases submitted to the court of appeals in 1984, 240 or 45.7 percent were heard on the record without oral argument. In 1980, 1981, 1982 and 1983, the proportion of cases decided without oral argument was 37.1, 54.2, 50.0 and 44.2 percent, respectively.

Including the 43 opinions with one or more dissents, the 528 formal opinions totaled 2,948 pages, an average of 5.6 pages per case or 49 pages per judge, counting the title page. Opinions ranged in length from 2 to 27 pages on double-spaced, letter-sized paper.

Of the 528 dispositions by formal opinion, 293 or 55.5 percent were appealed from 11 counties: Polk (90), Linn (42), Black Hawk (34), Scott (30), Pottawattamie (21), Johnson (15), Woodbury (13), Marshall (16), Lee (12), Dubuque (10) and Muscatine (10). During 1984, the court of appeals decided cases from 80 counties.

Iowa Appellate Courts -- Statistical Summary

There were 1,884 cases -- 1,297 civil and 587 criminal -- filed in the supreme court in 1984, up from 1,787 in 1983. The skyrocketing rise of appellate case filings from 1974 to 1984 is graphically illustrated in Table 11. Since 1974, civil filings have soared 118.4 percent (594 to 1,297) while the number of criminal cases docketed has mushroomed 34.9 percent (362 to 587). In 1984, there were nearly 126 filings per appellate judge; in 1974 there were 106 appellate filings per judge.

During 1984, the supreme court and the court of appeals disposed of 1,857 cases -- 1,280 civil (including 14 disciplinary cases) and 577 criminal -- down from 1,903 in 1983. More than half of the civil (662/1,208) and criminal (345/577) dispositions were by order rather than formal opinion; 63.5 percent of these matters were dismissed by the clerk or the court, denied or consolidated; 36.5 percent were voluntarily dismissed or withdrawn. There were 1,247 cases pending (885 civil and 362 criminal) at the end of the year -- an increase of 56 or 4.7 percent from the first of the year. The number of pending cases ready for disposition jumped 37.0 percent (308 to 422) during 1984.

There were 851 dispositions by formal opinion -- 618 civil and 233 criminal. During 1984, the average case was decided approximately 13 months after it was docketed in the supreme court clerk's office. In the average case the parties required seven and one-half months to file the briefs, records, etc., and make the case ready for submission to the court; the elapse time from readiness to decision was slightly over five months. The largest category of civil cases handled at the appellate level by formal opinion was domestic relations -- 179 of 618 civil cases or 29.0 percent. The number and types of other civil cases decided by formal opinion in the appellate courts were as follows: contracts, 88; torts, 80; property, 54; and postconviction relief, 45.

The supreme court disbarred four lawyers, revoked the license of two attorneys, suspended the licenses of 22 lawyers and reprimanded four others. In two instances, attorney licenses were reinstated. The court also found one attorney

in contempt and imposed discipline on one judicial magistrate. Fourteen disciplinary cases were decided by a formal opinion of the supreme court.

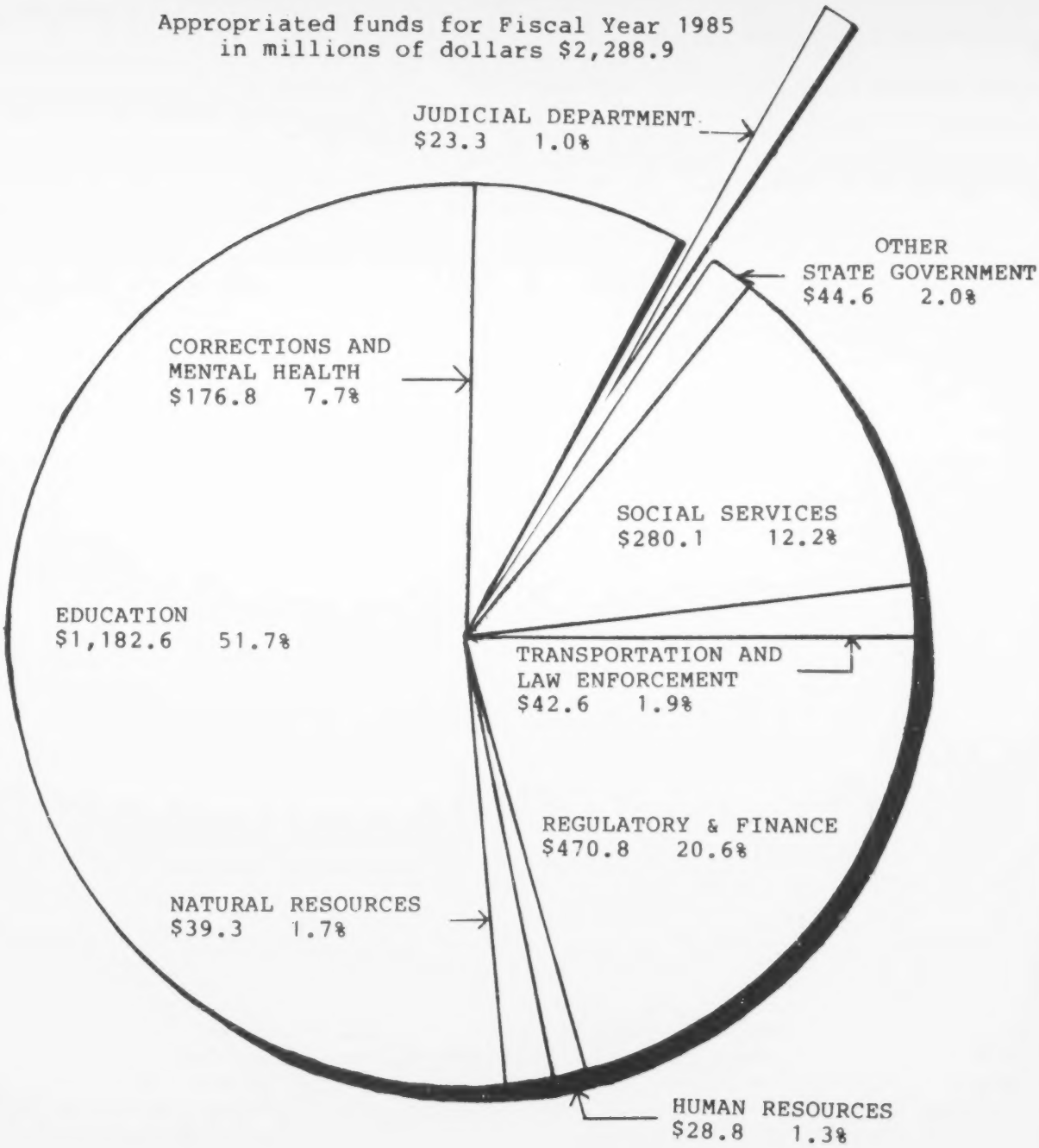
Financial Statement

The 1984 Session of the 70th General Assembly appropriated $23,343,295 to finance the operation and administration of the trial and appellate courts in Iowa for fiscal year ending June 30, 1985. This figure includes appropriations for the supreme court, court of appeals, state court administrator's office, district court administration, Judicial Qualifications Commission, Board of Law Examiners, Board of Shorthand Reporters, jury and witness fees, the salaries and travel expenses of all judicial officers and official court reporters and the salary of court attendants from January 1 - June 30, 1985. The general fund appropriation for the judiciary represented one percent of the total state budget of $2,288,913,423.

As noted in Chart 2 on the following page, the major general fund appropriation categories and their share of the state's budget were: Education, 57.0 percent; Regulatory and Finance, 20.6 percent; Social Services, 12.2 percent; Corrections and Mental Health, 7.7 percent; State Government (including the Judicial Branch), 3.0 percent; Transportation and Law Enforcement, 1.9 percent; Natural Resources, 1.7 percent; and Human Resources, 1.3 percent.

CHART 2

STATE OF IOWA



The cost of administering the Judicial Department is one percent of the total State General Fund Appropriation for FY 1985.

Source: Legislative Fiscal Bureau, Fiscal Report 1984 Session, June, 1984.

TABLE 1

NUMBER OF CIVIL, CRIMINAL AND DISCIPLINARY CASES
TERMINATED BY FORMAL OPINION
SUPREME COURT OF IOWA, 1975-1984

YEAR	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	DISCIPLINARY	TOTAL
1984	209	100	14	323
1983	301	149	5	455
1982	295	161	11	467
1981	208	171	4	383
1980	187	84	4	275
1979	202	81	7	290
1978	245	103	9	357
1977	252	118	4	374
1976	176	210	8	394
1975	229	143	6	378
TOTAL	2,304	1,320	72	3,696

a. Where two or more related cases were consolidated for purposes of decision-making and resolved by one court opinion, only one of the combined cases was counted in computing the total number of dispositions by opinion. In 1984, the 323 supreme court decisions involved 361 case filings.

b. The "civil" case category in this report includes appeals from final denials of postconviction relief and all certiorari cases.

c. "Criminal" means direct appeals from final judgment in criminal cases.

d. Includes only the bar disciplinary proceedings disposed of by written opinion and published in the North Western Reporter.

TABLE 2

FORMAL DISPOSITIONS BY THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA
AS CLASSIFIED BY MODE OF REVIEW -- 1980-1984

MODE OF REVIEW	NUMBER OF FORMAL DISPOSITIONS				
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
Appeal from Final Order (judgment) in District Court					
Civil Case	149	145	233	217	134
Criminal Case	75	159	149	131	86
Original Certiorari					
Civil Case	4	6	5	7	6
Criminal Case	4	3	4	2	3
Appeal from Interlocutory Appeal	10	19	15	29	16
Discretionary Review of Small Claim	5	1	3	4	--
Certified Question of Law	2	3	6	4	4
Appeal in Postconviction Relief Proceeding	8	21	17	17	16
Lawyer Disciplinary	4	4	11	5	14
Further Review	10	15	15	23	33
Miscellaneous	4	7	9	16	11
Total Dispositions	275	383	467	455	323

TABLE 3

NUMBER AND TYPES OF CASES DISPOSED OF
BY SUPREME COURT OPINION, 1980-1984

TYPE OF CASE	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
CIVIL					
Administrative law	3	2	4	5	3
Contracts	42	29	3	46	30
Contested child custody	1	1	1	1	7
Domestic relations not involving child custody	2	3	5	4	1
Postconviction relief	8	2	1	17	1
Property	1	4	2	1	1
Taxation	4	4	2	7	2
Torts	34	3	4	3	3
Trust, estates, wills	9	-	9	10	1
Other	2	2	4	4	3
TOTAL CIVIL	1	2	2	3	2
CRIMINAL					
Guilty plea only	4		1	8	2
Sentencing only	5	1	2	3	1
Guilty plea and sentencing only	-	-		2	
Other	6	1	1	1	
TOTAL CRIMINAL	1	2	1	1	1
LAWYER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS				5	1
TOTAL	1	4	4	4	3

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TABLE 4

NUMBER OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES: IN WORK[a], READY[b], ASSIGNED[c], AND OUT-TO-SUPREME COURT JUSTICES[d]
A COMPARISON OF CASELOADS
DECEMBER 31, 1982, 1983 AND 1984

	1982			1983			1984		
	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL
IN WORK	590	311	901	593	290	883**	567	258	825
READY	154	31	185*	110	51	161*	189	47	236*
ASSIGNED	20	7	27	22	5	27	20	6	26
OUT-TO-JUSTICES	35	7	42	24	12	36	29	10	39
TOTAL	799	356	1,155	749	358	1,107	805	321	1,126

a. In Work -- All cases docketed which are not yet ready for submission.

b. Ready -- All cases ready for submission.

c. Assigned -- All cases which have been assigned to the justices and will be submitted or formally presented to the court within a month.

d. Out-to-Justices -- All cases submitted to the court which have not been decided.

*For purposes of this table, the 531, 548 and 569 cases transferred to the court of appeals in 1982, 1983 and 1984, respectively, were deducted from the number of ready cases pending before the supreme court.

**This figure includes 120 new cases (79 civil - 41 criminal) filed in the supreme court clerk's office during 1983 but not assigned a docket number as of December 31, 1983.

TABLE 5

AVERAGE DELAY (IN MONTHS) FROM THE TIME A CASE IS READY FOR SUBMISSION TO OPINION SUPREME COURT OF IOWA, 1975-1984

YEAR	TYPE OF CASE			AVERAGE DELAY
	CIVIL	PRIORITY CIVIL	CRIMINAL	
1984	6.2	4.1	4.1	5.4
1983	6.8	3.8	3.7	5.5
1982	7.5	4.6	3.8	5.9
1981	5.9	4.7	4.9	5.2
1980	5.2	4.3	4.8	5.0
1979	5.4	4.0	4.4	5.0
1978	8.3	4.1	4.2	6.5
1977	17.0	4.3	4.5	12.2
1976	20.2	4.0	3.8	9.0
1975	14.6	3.3	4.7	9.0

TABLE 6

DISPOSITION OF CASES AT THE SUPREME COURT LEVEL BY ORDER OR OTHER MODE PRIOR TO FORMAL SUBMISSION TO THE COURT - 1984

TYPE OF DISPOSITION	NUMBER OF DISPOSITIONS		
	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL
Voluntary dismissal or withdrawal of appeal or other review by appellant	285	81	366
Dismissal by the clerk pursuant to Rule 19, R. App. P., for failure to cure default within 15 days after notice	72	24	96
Dismissal by court for failure to comply with Rules of Appellate Procedure	2	2	4
Dismissal by court for lack of jurisdiction	6	--	6
Dismissal by court of frivolous criminal appeal pursuant to Rule 104, R. App. P.	--	120	120
Denial of petition for permission to appeal an interlocutory ruling	131	--	131
Denial of petition for writ of certiorari	35	4	39
Denial of petition for discretionary review	22	59	81
Cases transferred to the court of appeals by order of the supreme court	412	157	569
Consolidations*	38	20	58
Other	59	32	101
Totals	972	499	1,571

*For purposes of this table, cases were classified as consolidated at the time an order granting consolidation was filed.

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TABLE 7

NUMBER OF CIVIL, CRIMINAL AND DISCIPLINARY
CASES DISPOSED OF BY OPINION OF THE SUPREME COURT
EN BANC AND BY DIVISION, 1982-1984

	EN BANC			DIVISION			PERCENT EN BANC		
	1982	1983	1984	1982	1983	1984	1982	1983	1984
CIVIL	36	27	22	259	274	187	12.2%	9.0%	10.5%
CRIMINAL	13	2	13	148	147	87	8.1%	1.3%	13.0%
DISCIPLINARY	11	5	14	—	—	—	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
TOTAL	60	34	49	407	421	274	12.8%	7.5%	15.2%

TABLE 8

NUMBER OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES TRANSFERRED TO,
TERMINATED BY AND PENDING BEFORE THE IOWA COURT OF APPEALS
1977-1984

	TRANSFERRED			TERMINATED			PENDING END OF YEAR		
	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL
1984	412	157	569	397	135	532	80	41	121
1983	330	119	449	405	150	555	65	19	84
1982	397	134	531	307	116	423	140	50	190
1981	305	149	454	348	163	511	50	32	82
1980	344	116	460	303	94	397	93	46	139
1979	263	114	377	259	120	379	52	24	76
1978	245	125	370	267	117	384	48	30	78
1977	330	95	425*	260	73	333	70	22	92
TOTAL	2,626	1,009	3,635	2,546	968	3,514	598	264	868

*Includes 69 cases — 56 civil and 13 criminal — transferred to the court of appeals in late 1976.

TABLE 9

NUMBER AND TYPES OF CASES DISPOSED OF BY OPINION
IOWA COURT OF APPEALS
1980-1984

TYPE OF CASE	NUMBER OF DISPOSITIONS				
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
CIVIL					
Administrative law	33	36	44	56	31
Contracts	35	39	50	54	58
Contested child custody	44	63	51	84	51
Domestic relations not involving child custody	81	94	53	87	102
Postconviction relief	10	16	12	29	27
Property	26	24	24	28	37
Taxation	3	4	4	3	9
Tort	34	35	33	28	41
Trust, estates, wills	14	13	13	16	3
Other	16	14	17	14	36
TOTAL CIVIL	296	338	301	399	395
CRIMINAL					
Guilty plea only	3	10	3	4	4
Sentencing only	7	12	9	6	21
Guilty plea and sentencing only	2	5	--	4	2
Other	82	136	102	135	106
TOTAL CRIMINAL	94	163	114	149	133
TOTAL	390	501	415	548	528

TABLE 10

AVERAGE DELAY (IN MONTHS) FROM THE TIME
A CASE IS READY FOR SUBMISSION TO OPINION
IOWA COURT OF APPEALS
1977-1984

YEAR	TYPE OF CASE			TOTAL
	CIVIL	PRIORITY CIVIL	CRIMINAL	
1984	5.1	4.4	4.3	4.8
1983	6.3	5.0	5.2	5.7
1982	6.9	5.2	5.3	6.2
1981	5.8	5.0	5.0	5.5
1980	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8
1979	5.2	4.2	4.6	4.9
1978	3.7	4.0	4.1	5.8
1977	16.1	4.6	4.6	12.5

TABLE 11

NUMBER OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES FILED*
AT THE APPELLATE COURT LEVEL
1974-1984

	CIVIL*	CRIMINAL	TOTALS
1984	1,297	587	1,884
1983	1,290	491	1,781
1982	1,253	596	1,849
1981	1,175	558	1,733
1980	1,081	539	1,620
1979	1,014	493	1,507
1978	1,003	487	1,490
1977	785	446	1,231
1976	737	439	1,176
1975	694	392	1,086
1974	594	362	956
TOTALS	10,923	5,390	16,313
10-Year Increase in Percent	118.4%	62.2%	97.1%

*Includes attorney disciplinary cases.

II. TRIAL COURT

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT

The unified trial court, known as the "Iowa District Court," became operative July 1, 1973. The district court has general and original jurisdiction of all actions and proceedings, including probate and juvenile matters. Its jurisdiction is exercised by senior judges, district judges, district associate judges and judicial magistrates. The salary and travel expenses of all judges and magistrates are funded by the state.

The Unified Trial Court Act requires the clerks of the district court to furnish each judicial magistrate, associate judge, or district judge acting as a judicial magistrate, a docket in which to enter all proceedings within their jurisdiction, except those required to be docketed with the clerks and assigned to judicial officers for disposition. The chief judge of a judicial district is authorized to order criminal proceedings combined in a centralized docket.

Judicial Magistrates

The Unified Trial Court Act created and allotted 191 part-time judicial magistrate positions to the 99 counties in the state, ranging from one to six per county. The original allotment remained in effect until June 30, 1975. Since that date, the state court administrator has apportioned magistrates among the counties.

A judicial magistrate appointing commission selects the magistrates to fill the positions allotted to the county. The person appointed must be an elector of the county and able to serve a full term of office before reaching the mandatory retirement age of 72. Although a license to practice law is not required, the commission must first consider licensed attorneys. In counties allotted only one such position, the appointing commission is authorized to appoint an additional magistrate and divide the statutory salary. (Adair and Ida Counties exercised this option in 1984.) Magistrates serve a two-year term of office commencing July 1 in odd-numbered years. The apportionment made in 1983 and 1985 appears in Appendices E and F.

As amended, the Unified Trial Court Act authorizes any county with an allotment of three or more magistrate positions to appoint a district associate judge to substitute for three part-time magistrates. The substitution is made by order of the chief judge of the judicial district on the affirmative vote of a majority of the district judges in the judicial

election district in which the county is located. District associate judges serving in lieu of magistrates are nominated, appointed and retained in the same manner as regular district associate judges. As they also have the same qualifications, rights, salary, duties, responsibilities, authority and jurisdiction as regular district associate judges, their work load is totally integrated in this report.

Jurisdiction

Judicial magistrates have jurisdiction of the following:

1. Preliminary hearing cases. [Cases in which they act as committing magistrates on felonies and indictable misdemeanors.] (R.Cr.P. 2(4)(a), The Code.)

2. Nonindictable or simple misdemeanors, including traffic and ordinance violations. [A simple misdemeanor is a criminal offense in which the punishment does not exceed a fine of $100 or imprisonment for 30 days.]

3. First offense operating (driving) while intoxicated - OWI - where the defendant is represented by counsel and pleads guilty. The proceedings must be recorded by a court reporter. [Effective July 1, 1984, the jurisdiction of magistrates over OWI offenses was repealed.]

4. Search warrant proceedings.

5. Emergency hospitalization proceedings. (Section 229.22, The Code.)

6. Lost property actions. [These include issuing a warrant directing a peace officer to appoint appraisers to fix the value of vessels, rafts, logs and lumber which have been stopped or taken up and determining the ownership of other lost property.] (Chapter 644.)

The above proceedings are all required to be entered in the docket furnished to them by the clerk or in the centralized docket for the county, if one is ordered to be maintained by the chief judge of the judicial district.

7. Small claims. [A small claim is a civil action (1) for a money judgment where the amount in controversy is $2,000 or less, exclusive of interest and costs, and (2) actions for forcible entry and detainer where no question of title to the property is involved.]

The act requires the clerk of the district court to maintain the docket for small claims actions. If the action is one for money judgment and it is not disposed of by the clerk through entry of a confession of judgment, default

judgment or a voluntary dismissal, it must be assigned to a judicial officer having jurisdiction of such actions. This is done by delivering the original notice first filed with the clerk to the officer. If it is an action for forcible entry and detainer, the appearance is required before the judicial officer who must handle the entire proceeding, including an order for the issuance of a writ of eviction if the plaintiff prevails. Again, the assignment is perfected by the clerk delivering the original notice first filed and all papers in the case to the judicial officer.

The record of all actions taken by the judicial officer in either type of small claims proceeding, including notes of testimony and judgment entry, is made on the original notice to which exhibits, if any, are attached and returned to the clerk. It serves as a calendar sheet from which the clerk makes proper entries in the small claims docket and on the lien index. Small claims actions are not entered in the docket furnished to judicial officers by the clerk or in the centralized docket used for criminal proceedings.

DISTRICT ASSOCIATE JUDGES

The original act provided for 30 magistrates required to devote full time to their position. One to four positions were authorized to counties in four population categories ranging from 35,000 to over 200,000. The 25 municipal court judges holding office June 30, 1973, became district associate judges and satisfied the requirement of a regular full-time magistrate in the county of their residence. Upon the death, resignation, retirement, removal or nonretention of a district associate judge, a full-time magistrate was appointed to fill the vacancy. By the end of 1980, there were 17 regular full-time magistrates and nine substitute full-time magistrates.

Effective January 1, 1981, full-time and substitute full-time magistrates were renamed district associate judges. Full-time magistrates who became district associate judges in January 1981, and persons appointed to these positions on or before November 2, 1981, stood for retention in office in their judicial election district in 1982. Persons appointed to these offices after November 1, 1981, who could not complete a one-year initial term of office before the November 2, 1982, general election, stood for retention at the 1984 general election. District associate judges serve four-year terms.

In counties having only one district associate judge, the county judicial magistrate appointing commission is authorized to appoint an alternate district associate judge to act in the temporary absence of a district associate judge. Such alternate is paid on a per diem basis by the state for

days of actual service rendered. In 1982, an alternate district associate judge served in Marshall and Warren Counties.

The number of district associate judges by judicial election district and county is illustrated below.

Judicial Election District	County	District Associate Judges
1A	Dubuque	2
1B	Black Hawk	3
2A	Cerro Gordo	1
2B	Marshall	1
2B	Webster	1
2B	Story	2
3A	Dickinson	1
3B	Woodbury	3
4	Pottawattamie	3
5A	Jasper	1
5A	Polk	6
5A	Warren	1
6	Johnson	1
6	Linn	4
7	Clinton	1
7	Muscatine	1
7	Scott	3
8A	Wapello	1
8B	Des Moines	2
8B	Lee	1
	TOTAL	39

Jurisdiction

District associate judges have the same jurisdiction as judicial magistrates. In addition, they have jurisdiction of:

1. Civil actions for money judgments where the amount in controversy does not exceed $3,000;

2. Indictable (serious and aggravated) misdemeanors; and

3. Juvenile cases when designated as a judge of the juvenile court by the chief judge of the judicial district.

While exercising such additional jurisdiction, they are not only required to employ district judges' practice and procedure but, as the cases are docketed with the clerk of the district court, they must be assigned and delivered to the judge with a calendar sheet on which to report the disposition of the case.

Trial by Jury and Appeal Provisions

A defendant charged with a nonindictable or simple misdemeanor is entitled to a trial by a six-member jury if he or she files a written jury demand at least ten days before the time set for trial. Failure to make such demand constitutes a waiver of jury. The plaintiff may appeal only upon a finding of invalidity of an ordinance or statute and the defendant only upon a judgment of conviction. If the original action was tried by a lay-magistrate, the district or district associate judge shall try the case anew; a case tried by a district judge, district associate judge or judicial magistrate admitted to the bar is appealed to a district judge on the record. Either party may appeal from the judgment of the district judge to the supreme court in the same manner as from a judgment in a prosecution by indictment.

A small claims action is tried before the judicial officer to whom it is assigned without the right to a jury. Either party may appeal to a district court judge who is required to hear the matter on the record. If it appears the trial record is incomplete, the district court judge may take additional testimony and evidence. The right of either party to appeal from the judgment of the district judge is entirely within the discretionary power of the supreme court.

DISTRICT COURT JUDGES

In January 1985, there were 99 district judges in Iowa. Under the judgeship formula computed in February 1984, 125 judgeships were authorized. However, the provisions of section 602.18, The Code, as amended, limited the maximum number of judgeships to 99. The latest computation of the judgeship formula (February 1985) authorized a total of 124 judgeships. The statutory formula and a copy of the application of the formula in 1984 and 1985 appear at pages 36 and 37 of this report.

For purposes of administration and ordinary judicial functions, the state is divided into eight judicial districts (Appendix D) and into 14 judicial election districts for purposes stated in the footnote to the map appearing on page 33. With 99 judges serving in the eight judicial districts, the population spread per judge ranges from 25,653 in the 5th District to 33,110 in the 3rd. [Appendix C]

Jurisdiction

District judges possess the full jurisdiction of the trial court, including the jurisdiction of judicial magistrates. While exercising the latter, they are required to employ the practice and procedure for judicial magistrates. Under the Iowa Probate Code they are the only judges sitting in probate.

Senior Judges

Effective July 1, 1979, the Sixty-eighth General Assembly established a senior judge program whereby retired supreme court justices, court of appeals judges, district court judges and district associate judges who qualify agree to work up to 13 weeks per year until age 78. The supreme court may not assign a senior judge judicial duties on a court superior to the highest court to which he or she was appointed prior to retirement. A senior judge may not be assigned to the court of appeals or the supreme court except to serve in the temporary absence of a member of that court. A senior judge may not practice law.

While serving on temporary assignment, a senior judge is paid no salary but continues to receive monthly judicial retirement annuities. The senior judge program provides a hedge against inflation by mandating an increase in judicial annuity whenever the current salary of active judges is raised. There is no provision for an increase in judicial annuity for judges who do not participate in the senior judge system.

During 1984, three supreme court justices -- M.L. Mason, C. Edwin Moore and Warren J. Rees -- seven district court judges -- John N. Hughes, Nathan Grant, Paul E. Hellwege, Robert O. Frederick, Dale Missildine, R.K. Stohr and Charles W. Antes -- and one district associate judge -- Ross Caniglia -- served as senior judges in Iowa. In this report, the work of these judges is combined with the caseload of the judicial officers with whom they worked.

Clerk of District Court

The clerk's office in the 99 counties performed two important functions during 1983 which reduced the work load of the judicial officers in each county. These were:

1. Kept the small claims docket and, through the entry of confessions of judgment, default judgments and voluntary dismissals in actions for a money judgment, avoided

the necessity of assigning many such cases to judicial officers. [Tables 12(d), 14(e) and 15]

2. Maintained a traffic violations office where scheduled violations were admitted and disposed of upon payment of the minimum fine and costs before the time specified for appearance before the court on a uniform citation and complaint issued to the alleged violator. [Table 16]

Judgeship Formula

Subsections 2 through 10 of section 602.6201, 1983 Iowa Code Supplement, relating to the determination of the number of judges in each of the 13 judicial election districts and the matter of filling judgeship vacancies, are as follows:

2. A district judge must be a resident of the judicial election district in which appointed and retained. Subject to the provision for reassignment of judges under section 602.6108, a district judge shall serve in the district of the judge's residence while in office, regardless of the number of judgeships to which the district is entitled under subsection 2 hereof.

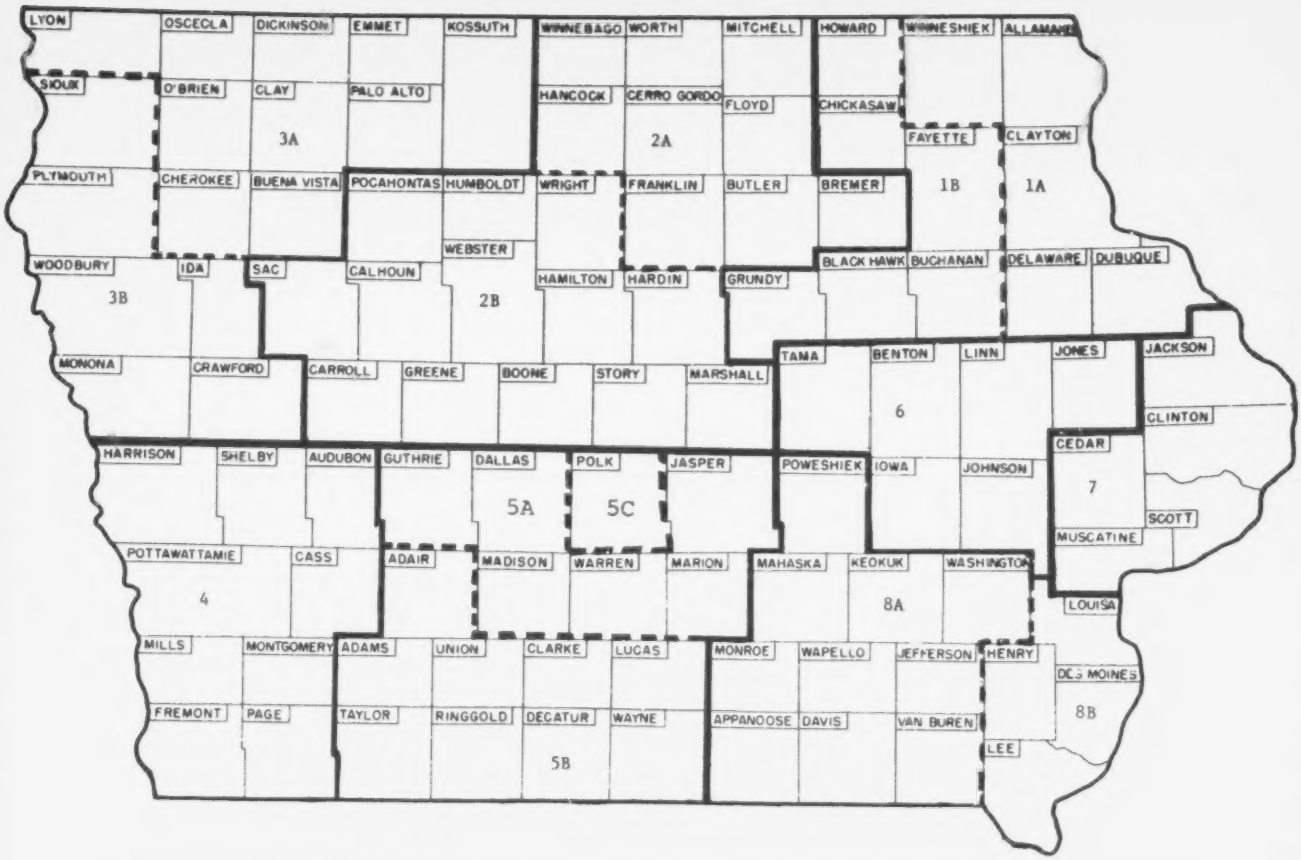
3. The number of judgeships to which each of the judicial election districts is entitled is determined according to the following formula:

a. In an election district where the largest county contains two hundred thousand or more population, there is one judgeship per seven hundred twenty-five combined civil and criminal filings or major fraction thereof. However, the seat of government is entitled to one additional judgeship.

b. In an election district where the largest county contains eighty-five thousand or more population, but less than two hundred thousand, there is one judgeship per six hundred twenty-five combined civil and criminal filings or major fraction thereof.

c. In an election district where the largest county contains forty-five thousand or more population, but less than eighty-five thousand, there is one judgeship per five hundred twenty-five combined civil and criminal filings or major fraction thereof.

IOWA'S 8 JUDICIAL DISTRICTS AND 14 JUDICIAL ELECTION DISTRICTS



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* Judicial election districts are for the purpose of nomination, appointment and election of district judges, the application of the judgeship formula, the removal of judicial magistrates and the appointment and election of district associate judges.

d. In an election district where the largest county contains less than forty-five thousand population, there is one judgeship per four hundred seventy-five combined civil and criminal filings or major fraction thereof.

e. Notwithstanding paragraph "a," "b," "c," or "d" of this subsection, each election district is entitled to not less than one judgeship for each forty thousand population

or major fraction thereof contained in the election district.

f. The filings included in the determinations to be made under this subsection shall include juvenile court filings after July 1, 1985, shall not include small claims or nonindictable misdemeanors, and shall not include either civil actions for money judgment where the amount in controversy does not exceed three thousand dollars or indictable misdemeanors, which were assigned to district associate judges and judicial magistrates as shown on their administrative reports, but shall include appeals from decisions of judicial magistrates, district associate judges, and district judges sitting as judicial magistrates. The figures on filings shall be the average for the latest available previous three-year period and when current census figures on population are not available, figures shall be taken from the state department of health computations.

4. For purposes of this section, a vacancy means the death, resignation, retirement or removal of a district judge, or the failure of a district judge to be retained in office at the judicial election, or an increase in judgeships under this section.

5. In those judicial election districts having more district judges than the number of judgeships specified by the formula in subsection 3, vacancies shall not be filled.

6. In those districts having fewer or the same number of district judges as the number of judgeships specified by the formula in subsection 3, vacancies in the number of district judges shall be filled as they occur.

7. In those judicial districts that contain more than one judicial election district, a vacancy in a judicial election district shall not be filled if the total number of district judges in all judicial election districts within the judicial district equals or exceeds the aggregate number of judgeships to which all of the judicial election districts of the judicial district are authorized.

8. Vacancies shall not be filled in a judicial election district which becomes entitled to fewer

judgeships under subsection 3, but an incumbent district judge shall not be removed from office because of a reduction in the number of authorized judgeships.

9. During February of each year, and at other times as appropriate, the state court administrator shall make the determinations required under this section, and shall notify the appropriate nominating commissions and the governor of appointments that are required.

10. Notwithstanding the formula for determining the number of judgeships in this section, the number of district judges shall not exceed ninety-nine during the period commencing July 1, 1983 and ending as the general assembly shall specify.

THE APPLICATION OF THE JUDGESHIP FORMULA UNDER SECTION 602.6201, SUBSECTION 3, 1983 IOWA CODE SUPPLEMENT

Based on (1) three-year Average Combined Filings (1981-83), with exclusions listed in section 602.6201, subsection 3, 1983 Iowa Code Supplement, divided by the factor opposite the classification of the population of the largest county in the Judicial Election District as appears in footnotes a, b, c and d, or (2) one judge for each 40,000 or major fraction of population of entire Election District, whichever results in the largest number of judges.

JUDICIAL ELECTION DISTRICT	NUMBER BASED ON (1) ABOVE	NUMBER BASED ON (2) ABOVE	FORMULA JUDGESHIPS*	RESIDENT JUDGES
1A[b]	3,366 (5.39)	170,760 (4.27)	5	4
1B[b]	6,397 (10.24)	227,266 (5.68)	10	8
2A[c]	3,921 (7.47)	171,826 (4.30)	7	6
2B[c]	7,106 (13.54)	328,417 (8.21)	14	11
3A[d]	3,236 (6.81)	158,404 (3.96)	7	5
3B[b]	4,849 (7.76)	195,975 (4.90)	8	6
4[b]	5,611 (8.98)	198,726 (4.97)	9	6
5A[a]	14,156 (19.53)	458,235 (11.46)	21[e]	17[e]
5B[d]	2,218 (4.67)	80,481 (2.01)	5	4
6[b]	7,798 (12.48)	330,504 (8.26)	12	11
7[b]	8,067 (12.91)	298,718 (7.47)	13	10
8A[d]	3,948 (8.32)	174,242 (4.36)	8	6
8B[c]	3,180 (6.06)	120,254 (3.01)	6	5
STATE TOTALS	73,853	2,913,808	125	99

a. 200,000 or more population - one judgeship per 725 filings or major fraction.
b. 85,000 - 199,999 population - one judgeship per 625 filings or major fraction.
c. 45,000 - 84,999 population - one judgeship per 525 filings or major fraction.
d. 0 - 44,999 population - one judgeship per 475 filings or major fraction.
e. The seat of state government is entitled to one additional judgeship.

*Although the 1984 computation of the judgeship formula created twenty-six (26) vacancies, the provisions of section 602.6201, subsection 10, 1983 Iowa Code Supplement, limits the maximum number of judgeships to ninety-nine (99) and, consequently, prohibits the vacancies from being filled.

Prepared February 24, 1984, by: State Court Administrator, Statehouse, Des Moines, IA 50319

THE APPLICATION OF THE JUDGESHIP FORMULA UNDER SECTION 602.6201, SUBSECTION 3, 1983 IOWA CODE SUPPLEMENT

Based on (1) three-year Average Combined Filings (1982-84), with exclusions listed in section 602.6201, subsection 3, 1983 Iowa Code Supplement, divided by the factor opposite the classification of the population of the largest county in the Judicial Election District as appears in footnotes a, b, c and d, or (2) one judge for each 40,000 or major fraction of population of entire Election District, whichever results in the largest number of judges.

JUDICIAL ELECTION DISTRICT	NUMBER BASED ON (1) ABOVE	NUMBER BASED ON (2) ABOVE	FORMULA JUDGESHIPS*	RESIDENT JUDGES
1A[b]	3,230 (5.17)	170,760 (4.27)	5	4
1B[b]	6,181 (9.89)	227,266 (5.68)	10	8
2A[c]	3,835 (7.30)	171,826 (4.30)	7	6
2B[c]	6,910 (13.16)	328,417 (8.21)	13	11
3A[d]	3,235 (6.81)	158,404 (3.96)	7	5
3B[b]	4,964 (7.94)	195,975 (4.90)	8	6
4[b]	5,504 (8.81)	198,726 (4.97)	9	6
5A[d]	3,633 (7.65)	155,065 (3.88)	8	3
5B[d]	2,241 (4.72)	80,481 (2.01)	5	4
5C[a]	10,402 (14.35)	303,170 (7.58)	15[e]	14[e]
6[b]	7,356 (11.77)	330,504 (8.26)	12	11
7[b]	7,772 (12.43)	298,718 (7.47)	12	10
8A[d]	3,862 (8.13)	174,242 (4.36)	8	6
8B[c]	2,886 (5.49)	120,254 (3.01)	5	5
STATE TOTALS	72,011	2,913,808	124	99

a. 200,000 or more population - one judgeship per 725 filings or major fraction.
b. 85,000 - 199,999 population - one judgeship per 625 filings or major fraction.
c. 45,000 - 84,999 population - one judgeship per 525 filings or major fraction.
d. 0 - 44,999 population - one judgeship per 475 filings or major fraction.
e. The seat of state government is entitled to one additional judgeship.

*Although the 1985 computation of the judgeship formula created twenty-five (25) vacancies, the provisions of section 602.6201, subsection 10, 1983 Iowa Code Supplement, limits the maximum number of judgeships to ninety-nine (99) and, consequently, prohibits the vacancies from being filled.

Prepared February 20, 1985, by: State Court Administrator, Statehouse, Des Moines, IA 50319.

ANALYSIS OF STATISTICS

Regular Civil and Criminal Cases

For the purpose of the following discussion, regular civil cases include all law, equity and special proceedings docketed in the office of the clerk except in the small claims docket. An appeal from a decision of a judicial magistrate in a small claims action also is considered a regular civil case.

Regular criminal cases include all felony and indictable misdemeanors (serious and aggravated). A felony is a public offense which is, or in the discretion of the court may be, punished by imprisonment in the state penitentiary, men's reformatory or women's reformatory. An indictable misdemeanor is a public offense, less than a felony, in which the punishment exceeds a fine of $100 or imprisonment for more than 30 days in the county jail. An appeal from a decision or verdict in a nonindictable or simple misdemeanor case becomes a regular criminal case when docketed by the clerk as a regular criminal action.

A total of 89,673 regular civil and criminal cases were docketed in the clerks' offices during 1984. This was a 2.0 percent decrease from the 91,428 civil and criminal cases docketed in 1983, and a 9.3 percent increase over the 82,057 cases docketed five years earlier in 1979. A comparison of cases docketed for 1983 and 1984 reveals that while criminal filings rose 1.2 percent (39,552 to 40,379) civil filings declined 4.2 percent (51,476 to 49,294).

A number of regular civil cases and indictable misdemeanors filed in district court were assigned to district associate judges, and substitute and alternate district associate judges for disposition. These three types of judicial officers mentioned above will hereafter be referred to as district associate judges. The total number of regular civil and indictable criminal dispositions by district and district associate judges and judicial magistrates amount to 91,198 -- an decrease of 3.2 percent over the 94,159 cases disposed of in 1983. There were 1,525 less cases pending December 31, 1984, than on January 1 of that year; the number of pending cases increased in the 3rd, 4th, 7th and 8th judicial districts and decreased in the 1st, 2nd, 5th and 6th judicial districts. [Tables 1, 2(a) and 3(a)]

District Judges' Activities

During 1984, district court judges disposed of 49,324 regular civil cases: 430 or 0.9 percent by trial to jury,

4,898 or 9.9 percent by trial to court, and 43,996 or 89.2 percent without trial. The number of civil dispositions per judge ranged from 431 in the 2nd District to 619 in the 4th. Statewide, there were 498 civil dispositions per district court judge. [Tables 2(a), (b) and (d)]

During 1984, district judges disposed of 20,382 regular criminal cases: 459 or 2.3 percent by trial to jury, 1,041 or 5.1 percent by trial to court and 18,882 or 92.6 percent without trial. The number of criminal dispositions per judge ranged from 154 in the 8th District to 265 in the 3rd. Statewide, there were 206 criminal dispositions per district court judge. [Tables 3(a), (b) and (d)]

The average number of civil and criminal cases disposed of per judge (704), with the rank of each district, is shown on Table 10. The 4th District recorded the highest number of civil/criminal dispositions per judge (833) while the 6th District had the lowest number of dispositions per judge (689).

District Associate Judges' Activities

There were 352 regular civil cases assigned to district associate judges during 1984 -- a 139.2 percent decrease from the 842 cases assigned in 1983. During 1983, the judges of limited jurisdiction disposed of 421 regular civil cases, 10 or 2.4 percent by trial to jury, 44 or 10.4 percent by trial to court, and 367 or 82.2 percent without trial. On a per judge basis, dispositions ranged from 0 in the 4th and 6th Districts to 162 in the 1st. [Tables 2(a), (c) and (d)]

During 1984, 21,433 regular criminal cases (indictable misdemeanors and simple misdemeanors on appeal) were assigned to district associate judges and judicial magistrates as compared to 20,742 assigned to such judicial officers in 1983. (Until July 1, 1984, magistrates were authorized to accept guilty pleas in first offense drunken driving cases where the defendant had counsel and a court reporter recorded the proceedings.) Of the 21,071 criminal cases disposed of by district associate judges and judicial magistrates in 1984, 201 or 1.0 percent were resolved by trial to jury, 295 or 1.4 percent by trial to court, and 20,575 or 97.6 percent without trial. On a per judge basis, dispositions ranged from 433 in the 5th District to 828 in the 6th. [Tables 3(a), (c) and (d)]

Civil and Criminal Filings by Case Type

Dissolution filings (and modifications) represented 33.7 percent (16,595) of the 49,294 civil cases docketed in the district court in 1984. [Table 4] These cases, combined with

other actions involving domestic relations such as child support recovery (7,029) and domestic abuse (132), accounted for nearly one half (48.2 percent) of all civil cases filed in the district court.

Table 4 also shows that 732 (2.8 percent) of the 26,152 small claims rulings by judicial officers of limited jurisdiction were appealed on the record to the district court, pursuant to section 631.13, The Code. Such appeals comprised 1.5 percent of the civil case filings.

In the criminal area, the 16,379 first and second offense drunken driver cases (OWI--operating while intoxicated) embraced 51.1 percent of the indictable misdemeanor filings and 40.6 percent of all the regular criminal cases, i.e., felonies, indictable misdemeanors (serious and aggravated), and simple misdemeanors on appeal. [Table 5]

The 7,658 felony filings represented 19.0 percent of the 40,379 criminal cases docketed. Only 0.3 of one percent (639) of the 224,312 simple misdemeanors handled by district associate judges and magistrates were appealed to the district court for a new trial, pursuant to rule 54, Rules of Criminal Procedure. Such appeals comprised 1.5 percent of the criminal filings.

Pending Regular Civil and Criminal Cases

Of the 47,726 regular civil cases pending at the end of the year, 12,676 or 27 percent were over 18 months old. During 1984, the number of civil cases pending over 18 months increased by 383 or 3.1 percent. [Appendix A] The proportion of pending civil cases over 18 months old ranged from 23 percent in the 2nd District to 29 percent in the 3rd. Except in the 3rd, 5th and 7th Judicial Districts, there were fewer civil cases pending at the end of the year than at the beginning.

There were 1,074 fewer criminal cases pending on December 31, 1984, than on January 1. Of the 18,276 regular criminal cases pending at the end of 1984, 4,066 or 22 percent were over 18 months old -- 36 percent (6,564) had been pending 3 to 18 months. [Appendix B] The 3rd District had the highest percentage of cases pending over 90 days; the 4th District had the lowest percentage of criminal cases over 90 days old.

Probate Matters

The district judges exercise the probate jurisdiction of the unified trial court. There were 979 trusteeships opened in 1984 -- up 15.6 percent from the previous year. [Table

6(a)] The number of trusteeships opened ranged from 51 in the 4th District to 191 in the 2nd. During 1984, 3,973 guardianships and conservatorships were opened -- down 1.8 percent from 1983; the number of cases ranged from 236 in the 4th to 784 in the 5th. Some 19,238 decedent estates were opened in 1984 -- a decrease of 103 or 0.5 percent. The number of estates opened varied from 1,321 in the 4th District to 3,776 in the 2nd. Statewide, there were 5 jury trials and 976 trials to court in contested probate matters; the number of jury and court trials in 1983 was 6 and 207, respectively. [Table 6(a)]

Of the 16,537 estates closed during 1984, 54 percent were closed within one year, 34 percent from 1-3 years, and 12 percent after three years. The respective percentages for the 16,731 estates closed in 1983 were 55 percent, 34 percent and 11 percent. In 1984, 59 percent of the estates were settled within one year in the 1st District; in the 4th District only 44 percent of the estates were closed within a year. [Table 6(b)] The number of decedents' estates closed during 1984 was 2,701 less than the number of new estates opened. [Table 6(a) and (b)]

Table 10 indicates the number of probate matters closed per judge in each district during 1984. The number of probate matters closed varied from 154 per judge in the 5th District to 278 per judge in the 3rd; the state average was 206.

Juvenile Matters

Juvenile matters are heard by district judges, judicial referees and district associate judges designated by the chief judge of the judicial district to act as judges of the juvenile court. There were 6,099 juvenile petitions filed in the district court clerks' offices during 1984 -- 561 more petitions than in 1983. [Table 7(a)] Juvenile petitions were classified into four general categories: delinquency (3,538), child in need of assistance or CHINA (2,501), family in need of assistance or FINA (38) and interstate compacts or extradition (22). Eighty-two percent of the FINA petitions were filed in the 1st and 5th Districts.

The number and type of formal hearings in juvenile matters are illustrated in Table 7(b). Figures show there were 3,269 adjudication hearings, 4,368 disposition hearings, 3,809 review hearings, 1,264 shelter/detention hearings and 2,785 other hearings, for a grand total of 15,495 -- up 364 from 1983. Fifty-one percent of the juvenile hearings are handled by district associate judges, 44 percent are conducted by referees and 5 percent by district judges.

Termination of Parental Rights

For statistical purposes, termination of parental rights cases were separated from regular juvenile matters involving delinquent children and minors or families in need of assistance. As indicated in Table 8, there were 892 petitions for termination of parental rights filed in the district court during 1984 -- a decrease of 39 cases from 1983. Twenty-seven percent (244) involved involuntary or contested proceedings. The largest number of termination cases (151) was docketed in the 5th District; the fewest petitions (55) were filed in the 4th District. There were 779 formal hearings held on these matters -- down 67 or 8.0 percent from 1983.

Hospitalization Hearings

Table 9 shows the number and type of hospitalization hearings. There were 4,219 hospitalization hearings in Iowa during 1984 -- 115 involuntary minor, 2,056 involuntary adult, 1,118 emergency and 930 substance abuse. The total number of hearings by type of judicial officer is noted in a footnote to Table 9.

General Activity of District Associate Judges

Other than regular civil and criminal cases, termination of parental rights and juvenile matters discussed above, a total of 142,239 cases were docketed or assigned and 136,098 cases were disposed of by the 39 associate judges during 1984. There were 50,851 cases pending at the end of the year. The number of cases docketed and assigned ranged from 4,858 in the 8th District to 68,835 in the 5th. The total number of simple misdemeanor/small claims cases pending at the end of the year varied from 556 in the 2nd District to 37,533 in the 5th. The number of each type of case filed, terminated and pending during 1984, appears in Tables 12(a) through 12(d).

As committing magistrates for indictable offenses, district associate judges conducted 17,001 initial appearance proceedings and 251 preliminary hearings in indictable criminal cases, pursuant to rule 2, Rules of Criminal Procedure. [Table 12(a)] Nearly three-fourths of the initial appearances were held in the 5th, 6th and 7th Districts; over 60 percent of the preliminary hearings by associate judges occurred in the 8th district.

There were 9,882 nonindictable state cases (simple misdemeanors) carried over from 1983. During 1984, 45,740 were docketed as compared to 42,711 in 1983 -- an increase of 7.1 percent. Of the 42,558 state cases terminated during 1984, the judges disposed of 86 or 0.2 percent by trial to

jury, 1,677 or 3.9 percent by trial to court and 40,795 or 95.9 percent without trial. The number of simple misdemeanors pending at the end of 1984 (13,067) was 3,185 more than the number pending at the beginning of the year. During 1984, the associate judges of the 5th District had by far the largest number of nonindictable state cases docketed, terminated and pending. [Table 12(b)]

Some 34,476 ordinance cases were pending from 1983. During 1984, 64,944 were docketed and 61,995 were disposed of: 22 or less than 0.1 percent by trial to jury, 1,763 or 2.8 percent by trial to court and 60,210 or 97.1 percent without trial. The number of pending cases increased by 2,949 from 34,476 to 37,425. [Table 12(c)]

During 1984, district associate judges entertained 390 search warrant applications and conducted 482 seized property hearings. Eighty-seven percent of the applications for search warrants handled by district associate judges occurred in the 1st, 3rd, 5th, 6th and 7th Districts; over 57 percent of the seized property hearings occurred in the 1st District. [Table 14(d)] There were also 166 hospitalization hearings held by the 39 district associate judges. [Table 9]

There were 13,233 small claims assigned and 13,226 cases terminated by associate judges during 1984. [Table 12(d)] The judges resolved 5,170 or 39.1 percent by trial to the court and 8,056 or 60.9 percent without trial. Of those disposed of without trial, 7,355 or 91.3 percent were defaulted and 701 or 8.7 percent were either dismissed or transferred. Over half of the small claims cases handled by such judges were assigned and disposed of in the 5th District.

Judicial Magistrates

In 1984, 153,220 cases were docketed or assigned to 166 judicial magistrates; they disposed of 150,972 or 909 cases per magistrate. [Table 13] The number of dispositions per magistrate ranged from 770 (3rd District) to 1,477 (1st District). Approximately 28 percent of the cases pending at the end of the year were in the 1st District. [Note: Judicial districts vary in population from 198,726 (4th) to 538,716 (5th) and in the number of magistrates from 13 (7th) to 34 (2nd).]

As shown in Table 14(a), there were 16,007 initial appearances and 999 preliminary hearings conducted by judicial magistrates in indictable criminal cases. While the largest number of such actions were in the 2nd District, magistrates in the 7th District had the fewest number of initial appearances and magistrates in the 6th District had the smallest number of preliminary hearings.

There were 76,881 nonindictable state cases (simple misdemeanors) docketed before judicial magistrates in 1984. [Table 14(b)] The magistrates disposed of 75,724 cases -- 152 or 0.2 percent by trial to jury, 6,756 or 8.9 percent by trial to court, and 68,816 or 90.9 percent without trial. The 8th District had the most jury trials (32) while the 1st District reported the least (8). There were 15,555 nonindictable cases docketed in the 2nd District; only 3,083 were docketed in the 7th District.

Statistics on nonindictable ordinance cases disclose that 44,966 cases were docketed, 44,035 were disposed, and 4,618 were still pending on December 31, 1984. Seventy-nine percent of the ordinance cases were disposed of without a contested trial to a judge or jury. The 23 magistrates in the 1st District handled 18,626 ordinance cases while the 19 magistrates in the 5th District disposed of 2,588. [Table 14(c)] Over 42 percent of the filings and dispositions and 57 percent of the pending cases were within the 1st District.

Overall, magistrates terminated 119,759 simple misdemeanors in 1984 compared to 121,841 in 1983. Over half of the simple misdemeanors handled by all judicial officers involved traffic matters.

Judicial magistrates entertained 666 applications for search warrants, conducted 328 seized property hearings and handled 2 lost property actions during 1984. [Table 14(d)] There were 779 search warrant applications and 407 seized property hearings before magistrates in 1983.

Statewide, for all judicial officers, the number of search warrant applications decreased 4.2 percent (1,277 to 1,223) while the number of seized property hearings fell 13.8 percent (1,019 to 878) since 1983. Magistrates in the 2nd and 8th Districts received the largest number of search warrant applications while those in the 3rd District conducted the most seized property hearings. Considering the work of all judicial officers on these matters, the highest volume of applications for search warrants was in the 5th District; the 1st District had the highest number of seized property hearings.

As shown on Table 14(e), magistrates disposed of 12,778 small claims cases in 1984. Sixty percent (7,626) of the small claims were tried before the court; the remaining 5,152 cases (3,746 defaults and 1,406 dismissals or transfers) were disposed of without a trial. The 7th District had the largest number of small claims assigned to magistrates tried to court (1,629) and pending (673) before magistrates at the end of the year.

During the first six months of 1984, judicial magistrates handled 859 first offense OWI guilty pleas. Nearly half of the drunken driving pleas taken by magistrates occurred in the 2nd District. Magistrates in the 3rd, 4th and 6th Districts did not handle OWI cases. Effective July 1, 1984, the jurisdiction of magistrates over first offense drunken driving pleas was repealed. [Table 3(c)]

District Court Clerks

The 99 clerks of the district court played an important role not only in record keeping but in the handling of small claims (dismissals and defaults) and scheduled violations. As noted above, under the Unified Trial Court Act, district court clerks are authorized to docket and assign small claims and enter dismissals and defaults. Cases involving forcible entry and detainer must be handled by a judge.

District court clerks also are responsible for handling scheduled violations in which the defendant mails in or delivers his or her admission, scheduled fine and $8.00 costs to the clerk's traffic violations office before the time specified on the citation and complaint for court appearance. In addition, clerks are the custodians of collection boxes used at weigh stations for the deposit of fines and costs in cases involving weight and other non-moving scheduled violations of commercial carriers.

Table 15 shows that more small claims were disposed of by clerks (45,296) than judges (26,152). While clerks in the 3rd District took care of nearly three-fourths of the small claims terminated in their district, in the 4th District they handled only 49.1 percent of the small claims dispositions. Overall, 63.4 percent of the small claims were disposed of by district court clerks.

As noted in Table 16, the district court clerks disposed of 426,023 scheduled violations without the attention or assistance of any judicial officer -- up 10,312 or 2.5 percent from 1983. On the average, a district court clerk disposed of 4,293 scheduled violations in 1984. The number of scheduled violations ranged from 298 in Ringgold County to 90,852 in Polk County.

Trial Court Statistics -- A Summary

There were 49,294 regular civil cases (over $2,000 and small claims on appeal) and 40,379 regular criminal cases (indictable misdemeanors, felonies and simple misdemeanors on appeal) filed in the district court during 1984. This represented a 4.2 percent decrease in civil filings and a 1.1 percent increase in criminal filings since 1983. [Appendix F]

There was a total of 91,198 civil/criminal dispositions in 1984. While the number of civil cases terminated declined by 3,861 or 7.2 percent (53,606 to 49,745), the number of criminal dispositions increased 2.2 percent (40,553 to 41,453) from 1983 figures. There were 440 jury trials and 4,942 court trials of civil cases; in criminal matters there were 660 jury trials and 1,336 court trials. Statistics show that 89.2 percent of the civil cases and 95.2 percent of the criminal cases were disposed of without trial.

There were 47,726 civil cases pending at the end of 1984 compared with 48,177 on January 1 -- a decrease of 451 or 0.9 percent. The number of pending criminal cases also decreased 5.6 percent (19,350 to 18,276). Of the cases pending statewide, 51 percent of the civil cases and 36 percent of the criminal cases were 3 to 18 months old; 27 percent of the civil cases and 22 percent of the criminal cases were over 18 months old. These figures represent a one-year increase of 3.0 percent in the number of civil cases pending over 18 months and a 17.1 percent decrease in the number of criminal cases pending over a year and a half.

In 1984, there were 704 civil/criminal dispositions per district judge -- 29 less than in 1983. [Appendix I] District court judges in the 4th District had the highest rate of civil/criminal dispositions per judge (833); in the 2nd and 8th Districts the average number of dispositions was 643. [Table 10]

A review of the type of cases docketed in the district court shows that 48.2 percent of the 48,294 civil filings involve domestic relations -- dissolutions and modifications (16,595), uniform support actions (7,029), and domestic abuse (132). [Table 4] Parenthetically, the largest category of criminal cases was first and second offense OWI (operating while intoxicated). OWI comprised 40.6 percent or 16,379 of the 40,379 criminal filings. [Table 5] Appeals of simple misdemeanors (639) and small claims appeals (732) represented only 1.5 percent of the criminal filings and 1.5 percent of the civil filings, respectively. Statistically, only 0.3 percent of the 224,312 simple misdemeanors and 2.8 percent of the 26,152 small claims cases disposed of by judicial officers were appealed to the district court for a second ruling.

The number of probate matters opened decreased slightly (24,233 to 24,190) during 1984; there were 979 trusteeships, 3,973 guardianships and conservatorships, and 19,238 estates. Corresponding figures for 1983 were 847, 4,045, and 19,341, respectively. The number of estates closed dropped from 16,731 to 16,537; 54 percent of the estates were closed within a one-year period.

There was a 10.1 percent increase in the number of juvenile petitions filed (5,538 to 6,099) compared with 1983 figures. The number of formal juvenile hearings decreased 2.2 percent (15,805 to 15,495). Over half of the juvenile hearings were conducted by judicial officers of limited jurisdiction; more than two out of five were handled by referees; district judges were credited with less than 5 percent of the juvenile hearings. In addition to the regular juvenile cases, there were 892 petitions and 774 formal hearings involving termination of parental rights; there were 931 and 841 such matters the previous year.

The average district judge held 8 juvenile hearings, closed 206 probate matters, terminated 704 regular civil/criminal cases, and tried 69 contested civil/criminal cases during 1984.

There were 224,312 nonindictable state and ordinance cases disposed of in 1984 -- down 1.9 percent from the number (228,617) handled in 1983. Nearly 94 percent of the simple misdemeanor cases were disposed of without a contested trial. Judicial officers held 33,008 initial appearances in indictable criminal cases, conducted 1,250 preliminary hearings, entertained 1,223 applications for search warrants, conducted 878 seized property hearings, disposed of 40 lost property actions and handled 4,219 hospitalization hearings. Judicial officers disposed of 26,152 small claims actions while the clerks of the district court handled 45,296. There were 426,023 scheduled violations processed in the clerks' offices.

TABLE 1

CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES[a] DOCKETED,
DISPOSED OF[b] AND PENDING IN 1984
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1983[c]

(Hereafter referred to as Regular Civil
and Criminal Cases)

DISTRICT[b]	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED BY CLERK	DISPOSED OF	PENDING DECEMBER 31	CHANGE IN PENDING
1	8,832	11,755	11,949	8,638	-194
2	9,776	12,886	13,174	9,488	-288
3	8,835	10,884	10,532	9,187	+352
4	4,109	6,885	6,686	4,308	+199
5	11,576	17,255	17,620	11,211	-365
6	9,345	11,072	11,722	8,695	-650
7	8,586	10,835	10,592	8,829	+243
8	6,468	8,101	8,923	5,646	+822
1984 Statewide	67,527	89,673	91,198	66,002	-1,525
1983 Statewide	72,508[d]	91,428	94,159	69,777	-2,731

a. Includes felonies and indictable misdemeanors (serious and aggravated) and actions for money judgments, other than small claims, where the amount in controversy exceeds $2,000. Also includes simple misdemeanors and small claims appealed to the district court. Does not include juvenile or probate cases.

b. There were 11 senior judges, 99 district court judges, 39 district associate judges and two alternate district associate judges serving Iowa during all or part of 1984. In this report, the work of the senior judges is included in the terminations by district judges; similarly, the dispositions by alternate district associate judges are combined with the productivity of district associate judges.

c. See map showing districts and 1980 population, Appendix D.

d. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1983, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 2

(a) REGULAR CIVIL CASES

ACTIVITY DURING 1984 WITH TOTALS COMPARED
TO THOSE OF 1983

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	ASSOCIATE JUDGES[a] ASSIGNED TO	ASSOCIATE JUDGES[a] DISPOSED BY	DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSITIONS	PENDING DECEMBER 31
1	6,777	6,788	90	162	6,816	6,978	6,587
2	7,394	7,309	14	11	7,329	7,340	7,363
3	5,711	5,814	101	103	5,287	5,390	6,135
4	3,260	3,703	—	—	3,713	3,713	3,250
5	9,263	9,876	69	56	9,667	9,723	9,416
6	5,491	5,167	—	—	5,421	5,421	5,237
7	5,252	5,977	37	60	5,714	5,774	5,455
8	5,029	4,660	41	29	5,377	5,406	4,283
1984 Statewide	48,177[b]	49,294	352	421	49,324	49,745	47,726
1983 Statewide	52,600	51,476	842	900	52,706	53,606	50,470

a. Includes the work of 39 district associate judges and two part-time alternate district associate judges. The nine district associate judges substituting for judicial magistrates served Polk (2), Dickinson, Story, Woodbury, Warren, Linn, Pottawattamie and Des Moines Counties during 1984; alternate district associate judges served in Marshall and Warren Counties. As substitute district associate judges have the same qualifications, jurisdiction and responsibilities as the other district associate judges, they are considered one and the same in these tables.

b. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1983, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 2

(b) REGULAR CIVIL CASES
DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT JUDGES

Methods of Disposition During 1984
With Totals Compared to Those of 1983

DISTRICT	JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSED OF	TRIED TO JURY	PERCENT TRIED TO JURY	TRIED TO COURT	PERCENT TRIED TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL	PERCENT WITHOUT TRIAL
1	12	6,816	45	0.7%	484	7.1%	6,287	92.2%
2	17	7,329	57	0.8%	924	12.6%	6,348	86.6%
3	11	5,287	45	0.8%	353	6.7%	4,889	92.5%
4	6	3,713	55	1.5%	466	12.6%	3,192	85.9%
5	21	9,667	110	1.1%	990	10.2%	8,567	88.6%
6	11	5,421	57	1.1%	496	9.1%	4,868	89.8%
7	10	5,714	20	0.4%	463	8.1%	5,231	91.5%
8	11	5,377	41	0.8%	722	13.4%	4,614	85.8%
1984 Statewide	99	49,324	430	0.9%	4,898	9.9%	43,996	89.2%
1983 Statewide	99	52,706	389	0.7%	5,098	9.7%	47,219	89.6%

TABLE 2

(c) REGULAR CIVIL CASES
DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT ASSOCIATE JUDGES

Methods of Disposition During 1984
With Totals Compared to Those of 1983

DISTRICT	JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSED OF	TRIED TO JURY	PERCENT TRIED TO JURY	TRIED TO COURT	PERCENT TRIED TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL	PERCENT WITHOUT TRIAL
1	5	162	—	—	8	4.9%	154	95.1%
2	5	11	7	63.6%	4	36.4%	—	—
3	4	103	—	—	7	6.8%	96	93.2%
4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	8	56	—	—	14	25.0%	42	75.0%
6	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7	5	60	3	5.0%	6	10.0%	51	85.0%
8	4	29	—	—	5	17.2%	24	82.8%
1984 Statewide	39	421	10	2.4%	44	10.4%	367	87.2%
1983 Statewide	39	900	6	0.6%	150	16.7%	744	82.7%

TABLE 2

(d) REGULAR CIVIL CASES DISPOSED OF PER JUDGE DURING 1984
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1983

DISTRICT	DISTRICT JUDGES			ASSOCIATE JUDGES		
	NUMBER	DISPOSITIONS	PER JUDGE (AVERAGE)	NUMBER	DISPOSITIONS	PER JUDGE (AVERAGE)
1	12	6,816	568	5	162	32
2	17	7,329	431	5	11	2
3	11	5,287	481	4	103	26
4	6	3,713	619	3	—	—
5	21	9,667	460	8	56	7
6	11	5,421	493	5	—	—
7	10	5,714	571	5	60	12
8	11	5,377	489	4	29	7
1984 Statewide	99	49,324	498	39	421	11
1983 Statewide	99	52,706	532	39	900	23

TABLE 3

(a) REGULAR CRIMINAL CASES

ACTIVITY DURING 1984 WITH TOTALS COMPARED
TO THOSE OF 1983

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	OTHER JUDGES*		DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSITIONS	PENDING DECEMBER 31
			ASSIGNED TO	DISPOSED BY			
1	2,055	4,967	2,635	2,605	2,366	4,971	2,051
2	2,382	5,577	2,196	2,226	3,608	5,834	2,125
3	3,124	5,070	2,392	2,232	2,910	5,142	3,052
4	849	3,182	1,820	1,690	1,283	2,973	1,058
5	2,313	7,379	3,455	3,462	4,435	7,897	1,795
6	3,854	5,905	4,078	4,142	2,159	6,301	3,458
7	3,334	4,858	2,932	2,890	1,928	4,818	3,374
8	1,439	3,441	1,925	1,824	1,693	3,517	1,363
1984 Statewide	19,350[a]	40,379	21,433	21,071	20,382	41,453	18,276
1983 Statewide	19,908	39,952	20,742	20,738	19,815	40,553	19,307

a. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1983, due to inventory corrections.

* Includes the work of district associate judges who handle indictable misdemeanors (serious and aggravated) and judicial magistrates who are authorized to accept guilty pleas in first offense drunken driving cases where the defendant has counsel and a court reporter records the proceeding. Magistrates disposed of 20 such cases in the 1st District, 410 in the 2nd, 278 in the 5th, 140 in the 7th and 11 in the 8th. Effective July 1, 1984, jurisdiction of magistrates over OWI offenses was repealed by statute.

TABLE 3

(b) REGULAR CRIMINAL CASES
DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT JUDGES

Methods of Disposition During 1984
With Totals Compared to Those of 1983

DISTRICT	JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSED OF	TRIED TO JURY	PERCENT TRIED TO JURY	TRIED TO COURT	PERCENT TRIED TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL	PERCENT WITHOUT TRIAL
1	12	2,366	51	2.2%	194	8.2%	2,121	89.6%
2	17	3,608	76	2.1%	112	3.1%	3,420	94.8%
3	11	2,910	33	1.1%	56	1.9%	2,821	97.0%
4	6	1,283	18	1.4%	14	1.1%	1,251	97.5%
5	21	4,435	118	2.7%	157	3.5%	4,160	93.8%
6	11	2,159	50	2.3%	253	11.7%	1,856	86.0%
7	10	1,928	72	3.7%	139	7.2%	1,717	89.1%
8	11	1,693	41	2.4%	116	6.9%	1,536	90.7%
1984 Statewide	99	20,382	459	2.3%	1,041	5.1%	18,882	92.6%
1983 Statewide	99	19,815	509	2.6%	914	4.6%	18,392	92.8%

TABLE 3

(c) REGULAR CRIMINAL CASES
DISPOSED OF BY OTHER JUDGES*

Methods of Disposition During 1984
With Totals Compared to Those of 1983

DISTRICT	JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSED OF	TRIED TO JURY	PERCENT TRIED TO JURY	TRIED TO COURT	PERCENT TRIED TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL	PERCENT WITHOUT TRIAL
1	5	2,605	16	0.6%	18	0.7%	2,571	98.7%
2	5	2,226	49	2.2%	19	0.9%	2,158	96.9%
3	4	2,232	8	0.3%	44	2.0%	2,180	97.7%
4	3	1,690	11	0.7%	12	0.7%	1,667	98.6%
5	8	3,462	19	0.5%	40	1.2%	3,403	98.3%
6	5	4,142	45	1.1%	28	0.7%	4,069	98.2%
7	5	2,890	24	0.8%	11	0.4%	2,855	98.8%
8	4	1,824	29	1.6%	123	6.7%	1,672	91.7%
1984 Statewide	39	21,071	201	1.0%	295	1.4%	20,575	97.6%
1983 Statewide	39	20,738	191	0.9%	248	1.2%	20,299	97.9%

* Includes the work of district associate judges who handle indictable misdemeanors (serious and aggravated) and judicial magistrates who are authorized to accept guilty pleas in first offense drunken driving cases where the defendant has counsel and a court reporter records the proceeding. Magistrates disposed of 20 such cases in the 1st District, 410 in the 2nd, 278 in the 5th, 140 in the 7th and 11 in the 8th.

TABLE 3

(d) REGULAR CRIMINAL CASES DISPOSED OF PER JUDGE DURING 1984
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1983

DISTRICT	DISTRICT JUDGES			ASSOCIATE JUDGES*		
	NUMBER	DISPOSITIONS	PER JUDGE (AVERAGE)	NUMBER	DISPOSITIONS	PER JUDGE (AVERAGE)
1	12	2,366	197	5	2,605	521
2	17	3,608	212	5	2,226	445
3	11	2,910	265	4	2,232	558
4	6	1,283	214	3	1,690	563
5	21	4,435	211	8	3,462	433
6	11	2,159	196	5	4,142	828
7	10	1,928	193	5	2,890	578
8	11	1,693	154	4	1,824	456
1984 Statewide	99	20,382	206	39	21,071	540
1983 Statewide	99	19,815	200	39	19,979	512

* The 859 indictable misdemeanor dispositions by judicial magistrates are not included in this table.

TABLE 4

NUMBER OF CIVIL FILINGS (AND DISPOSITIONS)
IN THE DISTRICT COURT DURING 1984
BY TYPE OF CASE WITH TOTALS
COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1983

DISTRICT	DISSOLUTIONS	UNIFORM SUPPORT	DOMESTIC ABUSE	OTHER EQUITY AND LAW	SMALL CLAIMS APPEALS	TOTAL
1	1,673 (1,797)	1,420 (1,400)	4 (5)	3,594 (3,704)	97 (72)	6,788 (6,978)
2	2,564 (2,541)	1,295 (1,288)	15 (16)	3,333 (3,405)	102 (90)	7,309 (7,340)
3	1,647 (1,548)	1,017 (982)	64 (47)	2,991 (2,701)	95 (112)	5,814 (5,380)
4	1,301 (1,259)	620 (736)	— (—)	1,730 (1,663)	52 (55)	3,703 (3,713)
5	3,419 (3,281)	662 (683)	5 (8)	5,612 (5,588)	178 (163)	9,876 (9,723)
6	1,981 (1,997)	344 (431)	17 (8)	2,747 (2,899)	78 (86)	5,167 (5,421)
7	2,204 (2,083)	1,150 (1,136)	18 (36)	2,545 (2,460)	60 (59)	5,977 (5,774)
8	1,806 (1,830)	521 (762)	9 (13)	2,254 (2,721)	70 (80)	4,660 (5,406)
1984 Statewide	16,595 (16,336)	7,029 (7,418)	132 (133)	24,806 (25,141)	732 (717)	49,294 (49,735)
1983 Statewide	16,674 (17,402)	7,400 (7,904)	150 (139)	26,449 (27,385)	803 (776)	51,476 (53,606)

Legend: Dissolutions — original actions and modifications.
Uniform Support — actions pursuant to the Uniform Support of Dependents Law. (URESA), Chapter 252A, The Code.

TABLE 5

NUMBER OF CRIMINAL FILINGS (AND DISPOSITIONS)
IN THE DISTRICT COURT DURING 1984 BY CASE TYPE
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1983

DISTRICT	OWI (1st/2nd)		OTHER INDICTABLE MISDEMEANORS		FELONIES		SIMPLE MISDEMEANOR APPEALS		TOTAL	
1	1,885	(1,864)	2,057	(2,079)	962	(950)	63	(78)	4,967	(4,971)
2	2,214	(2,248)	2,222	(2,323)	1,025	(1,106)	116	(157)	5,577	(5,834)
3	2,274	(2,244)	1,801	(1,747)	926	(1,063)	69	(88)	5,070	(5,142)
4	1,311	(1,190)	1,298	(1,232)	522	(496)	51	(55)	3,182	(2,973)
5	3,043	(2,915)	2,879	(2,949)	1,339	(1,892)	118	(141)	7,379	(7,897)
6	2,391	(2,429)	2,291	(2,302)	1,105	(1,339)	118	(231)	5,905	(6,301)
7	2,039	(2,081)	1,870	(1,727)	920	(975)	29	(35)	4,858	(4,818)
8	1,222	(1,128)	1,285	(1,258)	859	(1,037)	75	(94)	3,441	(3,517)
1984 Statewide	16,379	(16,099)	15,703	(15,617)	7,658	(8,858)	639	(879)	40,379	(41,453)
1983 Statewide	16,027	(16,751)	14,914	(15,106)	8,160	(7,729)	851	(967)	39,952	(40,553)

Legend: OWI — operating while intoxicated.

Other indictable misdemeanors — includes serious and aggravated misdemeanors other than OWI.

TABLE 6

(a) PROBATE MATTERS

NUMBER OPENED AND TRIALS ON CONTESTS DURING 1984
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1983

DISTRICT	JUDGES	TRUSTEESHIPS OPENED	GUARDIANSHIPS & CONSERVATORSHIPS OPENED	ESTATES OPENED	TRIALS TO	
					JURY	COURT
1	12	78	534	2,373	1	4
2	17	191	634	3,776	2	53
3	11	149	528	2,717	0	17
4	6	51	236	1,321	0	7
5	21	153	784	2,900	1	41
6	11	140	487	2,457	0	14
7	10	117	365	1545	0	34
8	11	100	405	2,149	1	37
1984 Statewide	99	979	3,973	19,238	5	207
1983 Statewide	99	847	4,045	19,341	6	663

TABLE 6

(b) DECEDENTS' ESTATES CLOSED

NUMBER CLOSED DURING 1984 AND AGE AT TIME OF CLOSING
WITH TOTALS COMPARED WITH THOSE OF 1983

DISTRICT	ESTATES CLOSED	PERCENT WITHIN 1 YEAR	PERCENT FROM 1-3 YEARS	AFTER 3 YEARS
1	2,231	59%	32%	9%
2	3,320	51%	39%	10%
3	2,509	56%	33%	11%
4	1,118	44%	37%	19%
5	2,545	58%	32%	10%
6	1,390	44%	38%	18%
7	1,224	53%	26%	21%
8	2,200	57%	32%	11%
1984 Statewide	16,537	54%	34%	12%
1983 Statewide	16,731	55%	34%	11%

* In addition, there were 553 trusteeships and 3,258 guardianships and conservatorships closed in 1984.

TABLE 7

(a) NUMBER AND TYPE OF JUVENILE PETITIONS

FILED DURING 1984 WITH TOTALS COMPARED
TO THOSE OF 1983

DISTRICT	DELINQUENCY	CHINA	FINA	IC	TOTAL
1	304	239	18	—	561
2	317	305	1	—	623
3	627	252	1	—	880
4	216	189	2	—	407
5	736	499	13	10	1,258
6	553	321	—	—	874
7	389	337	2	12	740
8	396	359	1	—	756
1984 Statewide	3,538	2,501	38	22	6,099
1983 Statewide	3,449	2,012	45	32	5,538

Legend: CHINA — Child in need of assistance.
FINA — Family in need of assistance.
IC — Interstate compacts (extradition).
(For definition of these terms, see section 232.2, The Code.)

TABLE 7

(b) NUMBER OF FORMAL HEARINGS

IN JUVENILE MATTERS DURING 1984
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1983

DISTRICT	ADJUDICATION	DISPOSITION	REVIEW	D/S	OTHER	TOTAL
1	476	387	363	156	224	1,606
2	340	647	438	67	675	2,167
3	437	369	384	102	293	1,585
4	338	231	225	101	197	1,092
5	523	939	567	146	114	2,289
6	447	698	858	368	886	3,257
7	392	687	301	257	209	1,846
8	316	410	673	67	187	1,653
1984 Statewide	3,269	4,368	3,809	1,264	2,785	15,495
1983 Statewide	3,456	4,587	3,779	1,109	2,928	15,859

Legend: Adjudication hearing — Section 232.2(2), The Code.
Disposition hearing — Section 232.2(16), The Code.
Review hearing — Section 212.102(6), The Code.
D/S - Detention/Shelter hearing — Section 232.2(14)(46), The Code.
Other — Includes such proceedings as: hearings on motions for change of venue and placement, motions for evaluation, change of counsel, motions to continue or suppress evidence and contempt of court and probation violation hearings.

TABLE 8

NUMBER OF PETITIONS FILED AND NUMBER AND TYPE OF FORMAL HEARINGS HELD IN CASES INVOLVING VOLUNTARY AND INVOLUNTARY TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS, 1984

DISTRICT		NUMBER OF PETITIONS FILED	NUMBER AND TYPE OF FORMAL HEARINGS		
			TRIAL DETERMINATION	REVIEW	TOTAL
1	V*	81	56	4	60
	I**	19	23	3	26
2	V	111	61	9	70
	I	26	31	3	34
3	V	85	58	1	59
	I	23	17	2	19
4	V	22	26	—	26
	I	53	29	2	31
5	V	115	101	—	101
	I	36	29	—	29
6	V	105	91	9	100
	I	50	49	28	77
7	V	65	53	—	53
	I	14	11	—	11
8	V	64	46	15	61
	I	23	16	1	17
1984 Statewide Totals	V	648	492	38	530
	I	244	205	39	244
		892	697	77	774

*V — Voluntary or uncontested termination proceeding.
**I — Involuntary or contested termination proceeding.

TABLE 9

NUMBER AND TYPE OF HOSPITALIZATION HEARINGS DURING 1984
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1983

DISTRICT	INVOLUNTARY MINOR	INVOLUNTARY ADULT	EMERGENCY	SUBSTANCE ABUSE	TOTAL
1	29	234	231	177	671
2	20	352	221	198	791
3	7	232	123	85	447
4	—	99	48	8	155
5	9	451	78	123	661
6	30	299	130	227	686
7	17	239	217	58	531
8	3	150	70	54	277
1984 Statewide	115	2,056	1,118	930	4,219
1983 Statewide	107	1,961	1,028	904	4,000

District judges handled 11 involuntary hospitalization of a minor hearings (sec. 229.2, The Code), 110 involuntary adult hearings (sec. 229.12), 58 emergency hearings and 29 substance abuse hearings. District associate judges held 5, 13, 141 and 7 such hearings, respectively. Magistrates conducted 5 involuntary adult hearings, 415 emergency hospitalization hearings and 13 substance abuse hearings. Hospitalization referees held 99 involuntary minor, 1,928 involuntary adult, 504 emergency and 881 substance abuse hearings.

TABLE 10

COMPARISON OF TOTAL 1984 CASELOAD PER DISTRICT JUDGE
WITH RANK OF DISTRICT IN EACH CATEGORY
SHOWN IN PARENTHESIS
(Adjusted to the nearest whole case or matter.)

DISTRICT	JUDGES	REGULAR CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES (Per Judge) DISPOSED OF[a]		PROBATE MATTERS (Per Judge) CLOSED[b]		JUVENILE MATTERS (Per Judge) HEARINGS[c]	
1	12	765	(2)	222	(5)	0	(7)
2	17	643	(7)	230	(4)	16	(4)
3	11	745	(4)	278	(1)	1	(6)
4	6	833	(1)	235	(2)	3	(5)
5	21	672	(6)	154	(8)	21	(1)
6	11	689	(5)	172	(6)	11	(2)
7	10	764	(3)	160	(7)	7	(3)
8	11	643	(8)	234	(3)	0	(8)
1984 Statewide	99	704		206		8	
1983 Statewide	99	733		206		9	

a. Computed from the sum of such cases disposed of by district court judges as shown by Tables 2(b) and 3(b).
b. Includes trusteeships, guardianships, conservatorships and estates closed in the district court.
c. Includes various types of juvenile hearings in cases involving delinquency, child and/or family assistance and interstate compacts. Does not include hearings in termination of parental rights cases.

TABLE 11

TOTAL ACTIVITY[a] OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES ON MATTERS
OTHER THAN REGULAR CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES,
TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS AND JUVENILE CASES
1984

DISTRICT	JUDGES	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED OR ASSIGNED	DISPOSED OF	PENDING DECEMBER 31
1	5	1,166	13,142	12,932	1,376
2	5	534	8,185	8,163	556
3	4	1,174	11,137	10,829	1,482
4	3	1,331	4,978	4,951	1,358
5	8	31,084	68,835	62,386	37,533
6	5	6,131	17,822	18,755	5,198
7	5	2,665	13,282	13,311	2,636
8	4	625	4,858	4,771	712
1984 Statewide	39	44,710	142,239	136,098	50,851
1983 Statewide	39	50,614	133,352	139,255	44,711

a. Includes nonindictable (simple) misdemeanors, lost property actions, small claims, initial appearances, preliminary hearings, search warrant applications and seized property and hospitalization hearings. Pending figures include misdemeanors and small claims only.

Note: For complete and detailed information on the various types of cases combined in this table, see Tables 12(a) through 12(d), 14(d) and 9.

TABLE 12

(a) INITIAL APPEARANCE PROCEEDINGS AND PRELIMINARY HEARINGS[a]

1984 ACTIVITY OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1983

DISTRICT	JUDGES	NUMBER OF INITIAL APPEARANCES[a]	NUMBER OF PRELIMINARY HEARINGS[b]
1	5	1,114	—
2	5	1,176	14
3	4	1,450	—
4	3	—	—
5	8	6,097	80
6	5	3,144	—
7	5	3,112	3
8	4	908	154
1984 Statewide	39	17,001	251
1983 Statewide	39	18,363	301

a. Refers to the initial court appearance of a person charged with a criminal offense above a simple misdemeanor. See rule 2(1), R. Cr. P.

b. Refers to a preliminary hearing held in a criminal case above a simple misdemeanor. See rule 2(4), R. Cr. P.

TABLE 12

(b) NONINDICTABLE — STATE CASES

1984 ACTIVITY OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1983

DISTRICT	JUDGES	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	DISPOSED OF BY				PENDING DECEMBER 31
				TRIAL TO JURY	TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL: GUILTY PLEA	WITHOUT TRIAL: DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	5	900	3,936	15	114	2,585	1,033	1,089
2	5	252	2,466	19	177	1,855	374	293
3	4	741	4,732	5	252	2,922	1,375	919
4	3	973	3,047	1	28	2,172	798	1,021
5	8	2,500	17,372	18	396	10,002	4,001	5,455
6	5	2,392	6,261	8	321	4,435	1,630	2,259
7	5	1,764	6,579	14	372	4,894	1,438	1,625
8	4	360	1,347	3	17	924	357	406
1984 Statewide	39	9,882	45,740	86	1,677	29,789	11,006	13,067
1983 Statewide	39	13,832	42,711	69	1,830	28,555	16,206	9,883

TABLE 12

(c) NONINDICTABLE — ORDINANCE CASES

1984 ACTIVITY OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1983

DISTRICT	JUDGES	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	DISPOSED OF BY				PENDING DECEMBER 31
				TRIAL TO JURY	TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL: GUILTY PLEA	WITHOUT TRIAL: DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	5	189	6,269	—	167	4,345	1,727	219
2	5	260	3,824	3	150	3,068	628	235
3	4	418	4,189	2	303	3,133	629	540
4	3	286	695	—	10	466	246	259
5	8	28,583	38,309	4	599	23,519	10,693	32,077
6	5	3,574	6,542	6	343	6,025	960	2,782
7	5	901	3,297	7	168	2,214	798	1,011
8	4	265	1,819	—	23	1431	328	302
1984 Statewide	39	34,476	64,944	22	1,763	44,201	16,009	37,425
1983 Statewide	39	36,465	58,127	39	1,980	36,736	21,361	34,476

TABLE 12

(d) SMALL CLAIMS

1984 ACTIVITY OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1983

DISTRICT	JUDGES	PENDING JANUARY 1	ASSIGNED BY CLERK	DISPOSED OF BY			PENDING DECEMBER 31
				TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL		
					DEFAULT	DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	5	77	1,460	475	780	214	68
2	5	22	643	372	212	53	28
3	4	15	714	217	424	65	23
4	3	72	1,217	591	508	112	78
5	8	1	6,839	2,111	4,720	8	1
6	5	165	1,702	1,115	364	231	157
7	5	—	121	121	—	—	—
8	4	—	537	168	347	18	4
1984 Statewide	39	352	13,233	5,170	7,355	701	359
1983 Statewide	39	317	12,692	5,110	6,564	983	352

TABLE 13

TOTAL ACTIVITY OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATES DURING 1984
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1983

DISTRICT	MAGISTRATES ACTUAL[a]	(AUTHORIZED)	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED OR ASSIGNED[b]	DISPOSED	PENDING DECEMBER 31
1	23	(23)	3,672	34,737	33,979	4,430
2	34	(37)	1,694	28,637	28,495	1,836
3	26[c]	(31)	1,538	20,192	20,020	1,710
4	16	(19)	814	13,438	13,077	1,175
5	19[c]	(27)	1,446	15,799	15,752	1,493
6	14	(17)	1,203	14,266	13,752	1,717
7	13	(13)	1,718	8,513	8,472	1,759
8	21	(24)	1,401	17,638	17,425	1,614
1984 Statewide	166	(191)	13,486[e]	153,220	150,972	15,734
1983 Statewide	166	(191)	13,926	152,328	152,713	13,541

a. The 1984 figures indicate the actual number of judicial magistrates serving in each district; figures in parenthesis show the number of magistrate positions authorized. See footnote a, Table 2(a) for counties using substitute district associate judges and Appendix E for the July 1, 1983, allocation of magistrates. The 1984 activity of district associate judges substituting for magistrates is included in the work load of regular district associate judges as illustrated in Table 11 rather than the business of magistrates presented in this table.

b. For purposes of this table, all search warrant applications, seized property hearings, lost property actions, preliminary hearings, initial appearances and hospitalization hearings docketed in 1984 were considered disposed of by the end of the year. Pending figures refer only to small claims and simple misdemeanors (nonindictable state and ordinance cases).

c. During 1984, Ida and Adair Counties exercised the option provided in section 602.58, The Code, and divided their one magistrate position into two jobs leaving 166 magistrates to fill 164 salaried positions.

e. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1983, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 14

(a) INITIAL APPEARANCE PROCEEDINGS AND PRELIMINARY HEARINGS

1984 ACTIVITY OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1983

DISTRICT	NUMBER OF INITIAL APPEARANCES[a]	PRELIMINARY HEARINGS[b]
1	1,799	102
2	4,083	345
3	2,416	69
4	989	140
5	1,686	115
6	1,790	18
7	388	60
8	2,856	150
1984 Statewide	16,007	999
1983 Statewide	16,384	959

a. Refers to the initial court appearance of a person charged with a criminal offense above a simple misdemeanor. See rule 2(1), R. Cr. P.

b. Refers to a preliminary hearing held in a criminal case above a simple misdemeanor. See rule 2(4), R. Cr. P.

TABLE 14

(b) NONINDICTABLE — STATE CASES

1984 ACTIVITY OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1983

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	DISPOSED OF BY: TRIAL TO JURY	TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL: GUILTY PLEA	WITHOUT TRIAL: DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	PENDING DECEMBER 31
1	1,545	12,462	8	781	8,204	3,143	1,871
2	1,248	15,555	25	1,797	10,382	3,255	1,344
3	1,235	11,441	25	726	7,879	2,632	1,414
4	642	7,669	12	595	5,080	1,812	812
5	1,308	10,070	26	886	7,554	1,580	1,332
6	933	7,272	13	707	4,676	1,484	1,325
7	807	3,083	11	419	1,953	830	677
8	1,075	9,329	32	845	6,676	1,676	1,175
1984 Statewide	8,793[a]	76,881	152	6,756	52,404	16,412	9,950
1983 Statewide	9,062	73,734	156	6,979	51,128	15,740	8,793

a. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1983, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 14

(c) NONINDICTABLE — ORDINANCE CASES

1984 ACTIVITY OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1983

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	DISPOSED OF BY				PENDING DECEMBER 31
			TRIAL TO JURY	TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL: GUILTY PLEA	WITHOUT TRIAL: DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	2,098	19,065	7	681	12,380	5,558	2,537
2	319	5,815	3	528	4,626	643	334
3	210	4,427	2	333	3,536	551	215
4	150	3,738	1	324	2,710	519	334
5	115	2,607	7	613	1,638	330	134
6	205	3,558	1	336	2,632	495	299
7	338	2,359	—	299	1,667	322	409
8	252	3,397	6	344	2,637	306	356
1984 Statewide	3,687	44,966	27	3,458	31,826	8,724	4,618
1983 Statewide	4,256	47,269	46	3,941	33,821	10,030	3,687

TABLE 14

(d) SEARCH WARRANT APPLICATIONS AND SEIZED PROPERTY HEARINGS BY TYPE OF JUDICIAL OFFICER

1984 ACTIVITY OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1983

DISTRICT	SEARCH WARRANT APPLICATIONS				SEIZED PROPERTY HEARINGS			
	DJ	DAJ	JM	TOTAL	DJ	DAJ	JM	TOTAL
1	55	48	35	138	1	277	36	314
2	5	13	191	209	—	—	49	49
3	1	50	105	156	—	—	119	119
4	—	10	26	36	—	7	9	16
5	55	101	73	229	60	4	20	84
6	3	47	37	87	5	126	8	139
7	24	92	10	126	2	6	18	26
8	24	29	189	242	—	62	69	131
1984 Statewide	167	390	666	1,223	68	482	328	878
1983 Statewide	137	361	779	1,277	58	554	407	1,019

Legend: DJ — District Court Judges.
DAJ — District Associate Judges.
JM — Judicial Magistrates.

There were also 2 lost property actions in the Fifth District handled by magistrates and 32 such actions disposed of by district associate judges in the Fifth District in 1984.

TABLE 14

(e) SMALL CLAIMS

1984 ACTIVITY OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1983

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	ASSIGNED BY CLERK	DISPOSED OF BY			PENDING DECEMBER 31
			TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL		
				DEFAULT	DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	29	1,091	660	285	153	22
2	127	2,486	1,484	694	277	158
3	93	1,575	948	469	170	81
4	22	855	415	396	37	29
5	23	1,201	851	278	68	27
6	65	1,578	807	499	244	93
7	573	2,543	1,629	517	297	673
8	74	1,609	832	608	160	83
1984 Statewide	1,006[a]	12,938	7,626	3,746	1,406	1,166
1983 Statewide	608	12,352	6,823	3,831	1,245	1,061

a. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1982, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 15

SMALL CLAIMS DOCKET MAINTAINED BY THE CLERK DURING 1984
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1983

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	DISPOSED OF BY		PENDING DECEMBER 31
			CLERK	JUDICIAL OFFICERS[a]	
1	1,129	8,879	5,809	2,567	1,632
2	1,607	11,362	7,962	3,092	1,915
3	1,205	9,105	6,688	2,293	1,329
4	648	4,412	2,133	2,207	720
5	3,273	17,043	9,826	8,036	2,454
6	1,024	7,762	4,255	3,260	1,271
7	1,098	6,767	4,199	2,564	1,102
8	1,396	6,336	4,424	2,133	1,175
1984 Statewide	11,380	71,666	45,296	26,152	11,598
1983 Statewide	11,655	67,298	43,017	24,556	11,380

a. Includes small claims dispositions by magistrates and judges.

TABLE 16

NUMBER OF SCHEDULED VIOLATIONS[a]

Handled Exclusively by the District Court Clerks (per county)

County	Number 1984	Number 1983	County	Number 1984	Number 1983
Adair	2,050	1,218	Jefferson	2,438	2,022
Adams	1,027	646	Johnson	16,539	15,039
Allamakee	1,345	1,215	Jones	1,741	1,526
Appanoose	1,226	944	Keokuk	393	343
Audubon	627	733	Kossuth	1,366	1,150
Benton	3,679	3,195	Lee	4,492	3,404
Black Hawk	16,397	12,878	Linn	17,342	16,595
Boone	2,561	2,563	Louisa	1,082	1,249
Bremer	2,509	2,525	Lucas	939	932
Buchanan	2,758	3,081	Lyon	1,079	1,067
Buena Vista	2,621	2,600	Madison	1,406	1,195
Butler	1,697	1,671	Mahaska	2,623	2,449
Calhoun	728	637	Marion	4,406	4,039
Carroll	3,539	3,434	Marshall	3,712	3,941
Cass	2,832	2,673	Mills	3,028	3,046
Cedar	12,576	15,085	Mitchell	798	944
Cerro Gordo	8,763	8,064	Monona	1,317	1,399
Cherokee	1,668	1,321	Monroe	1,310	1,128
Chickasaw	1,791	2,190	Montgomery	1,682	1,202
Clarke	6,177	6,006	Muscatine	3,668	4,147
Clay	,993	2,564	O'Brien	1,663	1,621
Clayton	2,829	3,060	Osceola	884	772
Clinton	4,547	6,435	Page	1,106	1,034
Crawford	2,351	1,825	Palo Alto	1,215	1,194
Dallas	4,361	3,851	Plymouth	3,438	3,546
Davis	1,203	1,375	Pocahontas	794	768
Decatur	2,071	2,199	Polk	90,852	98,847
Delaware	3,382	3,398	Pottawattamie	17,034	14,454
Des Moines	3,407	3,457	Poweshiek	3,077	2,737
Dickinson	3,129	2,557	Ringgold	298	243
Dubuque	4,784	4,997	Sac	2,330	1,869
Emmet	811	1,111	Scott	19,148	22,394
Fayette	3,736	3,933	Shelby	1,605	1,622
Floyd	1,733	1,757	Sioux	3,048	2,438
Franklin	4,095	3,140	Story	7,929	5,961
Fremont	1,939	1,959	Tama	3,744	2,743
Greene	1,379	1,385	Taylor	513	530
Grundy	1,621	1,300	Union	2,476	1,907
Guthrie	633	611	Van Buren	535	492
Hamilton	4,260	3,381	Wapello	4,487	5,131
Hancock	1,339	1,169	Warren	4,093	4,066
Hardin	2,480	3,149	Washington	2,085	2,247
Harrison	4,395	3,603	Wayne	913	1,093
Henry	2,757	2,449	Webster	3,279	3,324
Howard	844	809	Winnebago	524	662
Humboldt	947	712	Winneshiek	1,707	1,595
Ida	911	1,073	Woodbury	14,484	11,732
Iowa	3,368	4,416	Worth	4,943	4,687
Jackson	1,849	2,027	Wright	851	873
Jasper	4,882	4,344			
			TOTALS	426,023	418,124

a. Scheduled violations are defined in section 805.8, The Code.

APPENDIX A

NUMBER AND AGE OF CIVIL CASES[a]
PENDING DECEMBER 31, 1984
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1983

DISTRICT	TOTAL NUMBER PENDING	NUMBER OF CASES PENDING (IN PERCENT)		
		90 DAYS OR LESS	3-18 MONTHS	OVER 18 MONTHS
1	6,587	2,048 (31%)	2,986 (45%)	1,553 (24%)
2	7,363	1,945 (27%)	3,703 (50%)	1,715 (23%)
3	6,135	1,107 (18%)	3,252 (53%)	1,776 (29%)
4	3,250	707 (22%)	1,662 (51%)	881 (27%)
5	9,416	1,876 (20%)	4,933 (52%)	2,607 (28%)
6	5,237	1,026 (20%)	2,733 (52%)	1,478 (28%)
7	5,455	1,032 (19%)	2,920 (53%)	1,503 (28%)
8	4,283	942 (22%)	2,178 (51%)	1,163 (27%)
1984 Statewide	47,726	10,683 (22%)	24,367 (51%)	12,676 (27%)
1983 Statewide	50,470	11,008 (22%)	27,169 (54%)	12,293 (24%)

a. Includes civil cases above a small claim and small claims on appeal.

APPENDIX B

NUMBER AND AGE OF CRIMINAL CASES[a]
PENDING DECEMBER 31, 1984
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1983

DISTRICT	TOTAL NUMBER PENDING	NUMBER OF CASES PENDING (IN PERCENT)		
		90 DAYS OR LESS	3-18 MONTHS	OVER 18 MONTHS
1	2,051	907 (44%)	639 (31%)	505 (25%)
2	2,125	955 (45%)	682 (32%)	488 (23%)
3	3,052	921 (30%)	1,081 (36%)	1,050 (34%)
4	1,058	768 (72%)	230 (22%)	60 (6%)
5	1,795	914 (51%)	632 (35%)	249 (14%)
6	3,458	1,291 (37%)	1,377 (40%)	790 (23%)
7	3,374	1,252 (37%)	1,387 (41%)	735 (22%)
8	1,363	638 (47%)	536 (39%)	189 (14%)
1984 Statewide	18,276	7,646 (42%)	6,564 (36%)	4,066 (22%)
1983 Statewide	19,307	7,092 (37%)	7,309 (38%)	4,906 (25%)

a. Includes criminal cases above a simple misdemeanor and simple misdemeanors on appeal.

APPENDIX C

POPULATION PER DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

DISTRICT	JUDGES	DISTRICT POPULATION[a]	POPULATION PER JUDGE
1	12	398,026	33,169
2	17	500,243	29,426
3	11	354,379	32,216
4	6	198,726	33,110
5	21	538,716	25,653
6	11	330,504	30,045
7	10	298,718	29,872
8	11	294,496	26,772
Statewide	99	2,913,808	29,432

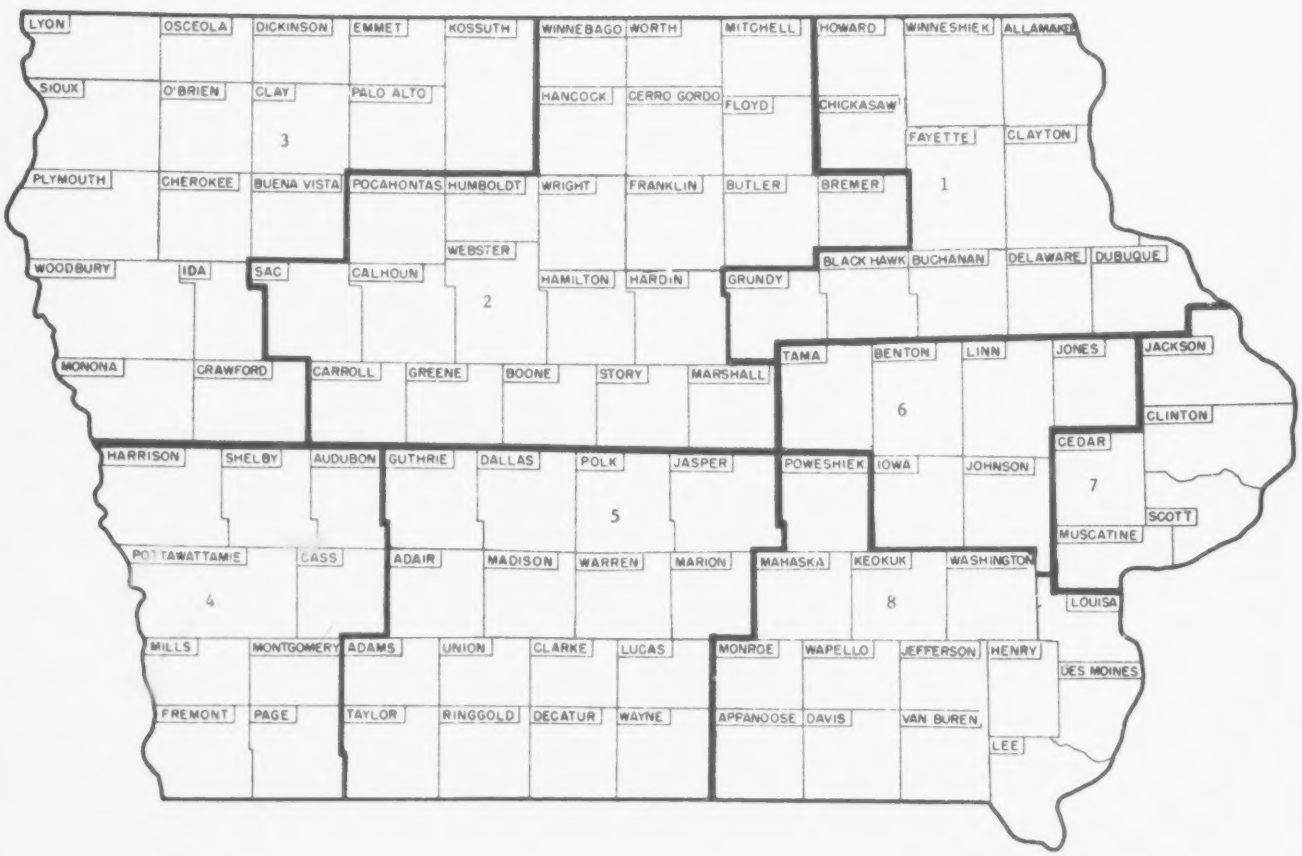
a. Official 1980 population statistics — U.S. Bureau of the Census and the Iowa Office of Planning and Programming.

APPENDIX D

IOWA'S EIGHT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS — POPULATION*

First District	398,026	Fifth District	538,716
Second District	500,243	Sixth District	330,504
Third District	354,379	Seventh District	298,718
Fourth District	198,726	Eighth District	294,496

STATE TOTAL — 2,913,808

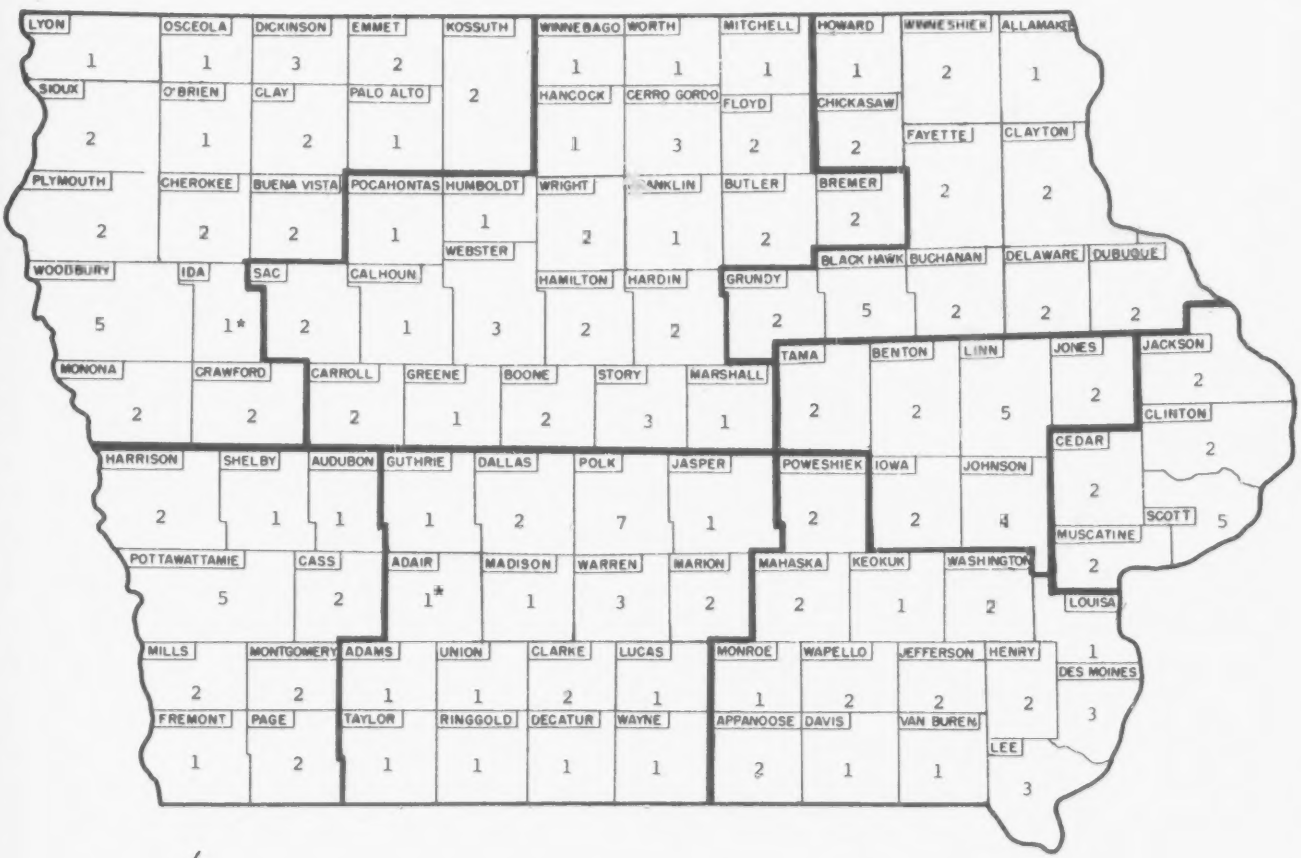


*Official 1980 population figures — U.S. Bureau of the Census and the Iowa Office of Planning and Programming.

APPENDIX E

ALLOCATION OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATES JULY 1, 1983 THROUGH JULY 1, 1985

36 - one Magistrate counties
49 - two Magistrate counties
7 - three Magistrate counties
1 - four Magistrate county
5 - five Magistrate counties
1 - seven Magistrate county

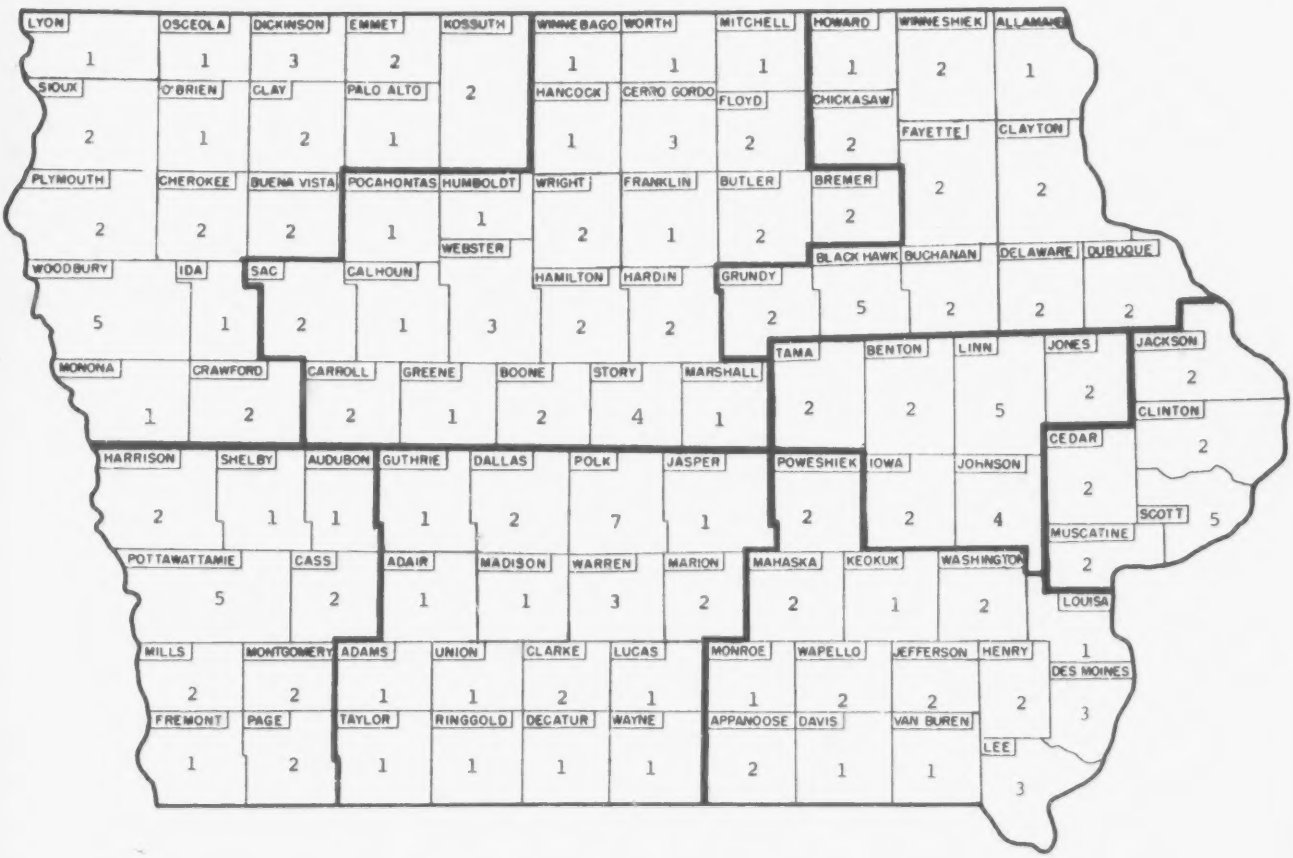


* Counties taking the option of appointing one additional magistrate as provided in section 602.58.

APPENDIX F

ALLOCATION OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATES JULY 1, 1985 THROUGH JUNE 30, 1987

37 - one Magistrate counties
48 - two Magistrate counties
6 - three Magistrate counties
2 - four Magistrate county
5 - five Magistrate counties
1 - seven Magistrate county



APPENDIX G

FILINGS IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT
1956-1984

YEAR	#DISTRICT JUDGES	CIVIL[a]	CRIMINAL[b]	TOTAL	(PER JUDGE)	JUVENILE[c]	PROBATE[d] OPENED
1984	99	49,294	40,379	89,673	(906)	6,099	24,190
1983	99	51,476	39,952	91,428	(924)	5,532	24,233
1982	95	55,763	39,008	94,771	(998)	5,363	24,329
1981	95	58,225	36,932	95,157	(1,002)	5,570	24,192
1980	92	58,442	35,669	94,111	(1,028)	5,501	23,452
1979	92	51,031	31,026	82,057	(892)	5,227	23,479
1978	92	46,498	27,942	74,440	(809)	6,179	24,218
1977	92	43,324	28,795	72,119	(784)	6,000	23,202
1976	89	40,103	26,009	66,112	(742)	5,744	22,896
1975	84	37,963	23,600	61,563	(733)	5,685	22,640
1974	83	36,216	20,653	56,869	(685)	5,446	22,646
1973	83	38,057	16,148	54,205	(653)	3,730	22,803
1972	76	40,483	10,699	51,182	(673)	2,567	21,953
1971	76	40,315	11,300	51,615	(679)	3,249	21,317
1970	76	37,965	10,140	48,105	(633)	3,224	20,470
1969	76	35,574	9,505	45,079	(593)	2,876	20,158
1968	75	33,617	8,367	41,984	(560)	2,626	19,520
1967	76	31,646	7,496	39,142	(515)	2,367	19,310
1966	75	30,310	7,159	37,469	(500)	2,146	19,515
1965	75	29,207	7,432	36,639	(489)	2,163	19,463
1964	75	28,405	7,004	35,409	(472)	2,341	19,034
1963	75	28,138	6,641	34,779	(464)	2,096	18,532
1962	75	28,528	7,113	35,641	(475)	2,035	17,831
1961	75	28,288	7,209	35,497	(473)	1,880	17,346
1960	73	26,767	7,260	34,027	(466)	2,012	17,248
1959	73	25,136	7,086	32,222	(441)	2,005	17,117
1958	72	23,661	6,724	30,385	(422)	1,937	16,694
1957	72	23,579	6,486	30,065	(418)	1,921	16,945
1956	70	22,922	6,178	29,100	(416)	1,607	16,137

a. Includes civil cases over $2,000 and small claims on appeal.

b. Includes indictable criminal cases (serious and aggravated misdemeanors and felonies) and simple misdemeanor appeals.

c. Includes petitions filed in ordinary juvenile matters, e.g., delinquency, child and family in need of assistance and interstate compacts (extradition) matters; does not encompass cases involving termination of parental rights.

d. Includes the number of estates, trusteeships, guardianships and conservatorships opened.

APPENDIX H

OTHER FILINGS IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT

YEAR	SIMPLE MISDEMEANORS	SCHEDULED VIOLATIONS	SMALL CLAIMS
1984	232,070	426,023	71,666
1983	221,841	418,124	67,298
1982	231,998	425,272	67,967
1981	267,436	470,553	75,259
1980	292,037	490,158	82,208
1979	291,404	462,224	78,141
1978	319,481	476,955	72,054
1977	410,862	310,710	65,434
1976	410,696	285,086	62,416
1975	375,707	223,622	63,582
1974*	286,504	198,147	68,021

*This was the first full year under the new unified court system which became effective July 1, 1973.

APPENDIX I

CIVIL/CRIMINAL DISPOSITIONS BY DISTRICT COURT JUDGES[a]
1956-1984

YEAR	#DISTRICT JUDGES	CIVIL[b]	CRIMINAL[c]	TOTAL	PER JUDGE
1984	99	49,324	20,382	69,706	704
1983	99	52,706	19,815	72,521	733
1982	95	54,484	19,027	73,511	774
1981	95	54,511	17,834	72,345	762
1980	92	52,799	17,448	70,247	764
1979	92	47,754	15,098	62,852	683
1978	92	41,898	14,561	56,459	614
1977	92	38,682	17,200	55,882	607
1976	89	37,319	17,750	55,069	619
1975	84	35,737	14,874	50,611	603
1974	83	35,007	14,268	49,275	594
1973	83	38,381	12,384	50,765	612
1972	76	40,553	11,147	51,700	680
1971	76	38,455	10,659	49,114	646
1970	76	35,636	9,304	44,940	591
1969	76	32,642	8,676	41,318	544
1968	75	29,541	8,035	37,576	501
1967	76	29,343	7,267	36,610	482
1966	75	30,140	6,916	37,056	494
1965	75	30,280	6,654	36,934	492
1964	75	28,258	6,757	35,015	467
1963	75	29,342	6,551	35,893	479
1962	75	28,941	7,165	36,106	481
1961	75	30,616	7,556	38,172	509
1960	73	24,094	7,196	31,290	429
1959	73	23,988	6,949	30,937	424
1958	72	23,304	6,533	29,837	414
1957	72	23,302	6,932	30,234	420
1956	70	21,741	5,836	27,577	394

a. Does not include civil and criminal cases disposed of by judges of limited jurisdiction and judicial magistrates.
b. Includes civil cases over $2,000 and small claims cases appealed to the district court.
c. Includes indictable criminal cases (serious and aggravated misdemeanors and felonies) and simple misdemeanor appeals.